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THE TIMES

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THURSDAY AUGUST 8 1996

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'It will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world'

Clinton hails discovery of life on Mars

BY NIGEL HAWKES
SCIENCE EDITOR

PRESIDENT CLINTON yesterday saluted as "stunning" the discovery that life may have evolved independently on Mars.

Promising to pursue the discovery through further missions to the planet — the first will be launched in November — the President announced that a science summit would be held later this year to discuss the finding.

If confirmed, he said, "It will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world that science has ever uncovered. Its implications are as far reaching and as awe-inspiring as can be imagined. Even as it promises answers to some of our oldest questions, it poses others even more fundamental."

The evidence comes from a meteorite which began as a piece of rock on Mars 4.5 billion years ago, was splashed off its surface by an asteroid impact 15 million years ago, and reached Antarctica as a meteorite 12,000 years ago. "It speaks to us across billions of years and millions of miles," the President said.

He was speaking before the scientists involved explained why they believe the meteorite suggests that there was once life on Mars. Dr David McKay of the Johnson Space Centre in Houston, who led the team of scientists at the American space agency Nasa, admitted that the story was a controversial one and that there would be a lot of disagreement. "But the team is in consensus that we are on the right track".

The claim is certain to be subjected to minute examination before others accept that it really does constitute the first evidence of extraterrestrial life. Dan Goldin, the Nasa Administrator, conceded that the evidence was "not conclusive" but was more of the nature of a detective story which pointed to the conclusion the team had drawn.

"OK, there's life but is it intelligent life?"

The meteorite was found by an American expedition to Antarctica in 1984, but it had been recognised only recently to have been of Martian origin. The rock of which the meteorite is made formed about 4.5 billion years ago, at the same time as the rocks on Earth were forming.

About 15 million years ago, the impact of an asteroid or a comet on the surface of Mars threw up a mass of material, which then went into orbit on its own, beginning an odyssey through the solar system which ended when it entered the Earth's atmosphere about 13,000 years ago.

The evidence that it really did come from Mars comes from the fact that it contains a higher percentage of a heavier form of oxygen than is normally found on Earth, and at a level typical of that found in Martian soil by the Viking spacecraft which landed on the planet in the 1970s.

The meteorite, called Allen Hills 84001, is riven with tiny fractures caused by impacts while the rock was still on Mars. Along some of these fractures are found carbonates, similar to limestone, which formed later than the rock itself, about 3.6 billion years ago.

Within these carbonates are fine-grained magnetite and iron sulphide particles, similar chemically, structurally and in shape to those produced by bacteria on Earth.

On the surface of the carbonates are small oval shapes, similar to those found on the surface of calcite formed from groundwater in southern Italy in recent geological times and believed to be caused by tiny bacteria.

"None of these observations is in itself conclusive for the existence of past life," the team acknowledges. "Although there are alternative explanations for each of these phenomena taken individually, when they are considered collectively ... we conclude that they are evidence for primitive life on Mars."

Dr McKay's team will give the full reasons for their conclusions in a paper to be published in *Science* next week, but their initial observations were generally well-received by other scientists. Dr Jack Farmer of Nasa's Ames Research Centre in California said: "What makes this such an exciting set of observations is that within this rock you have evidence of liquid water, and organic compounds, both of which are necessary for life."

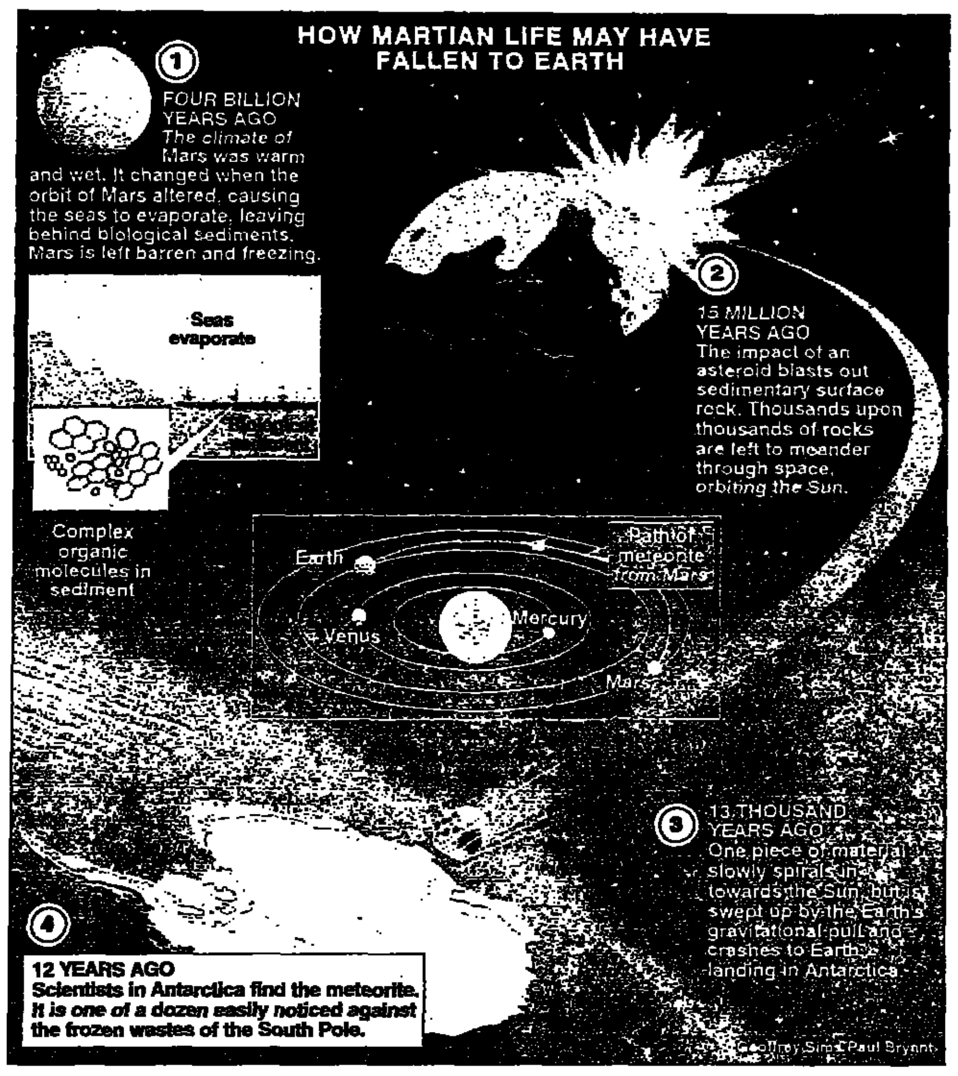
The evidence was all the more compelling, he said, because the evidence was that the water was at the same hot temperature, about 80C, as that in which the first life forms on Earth are thought to have evolved.

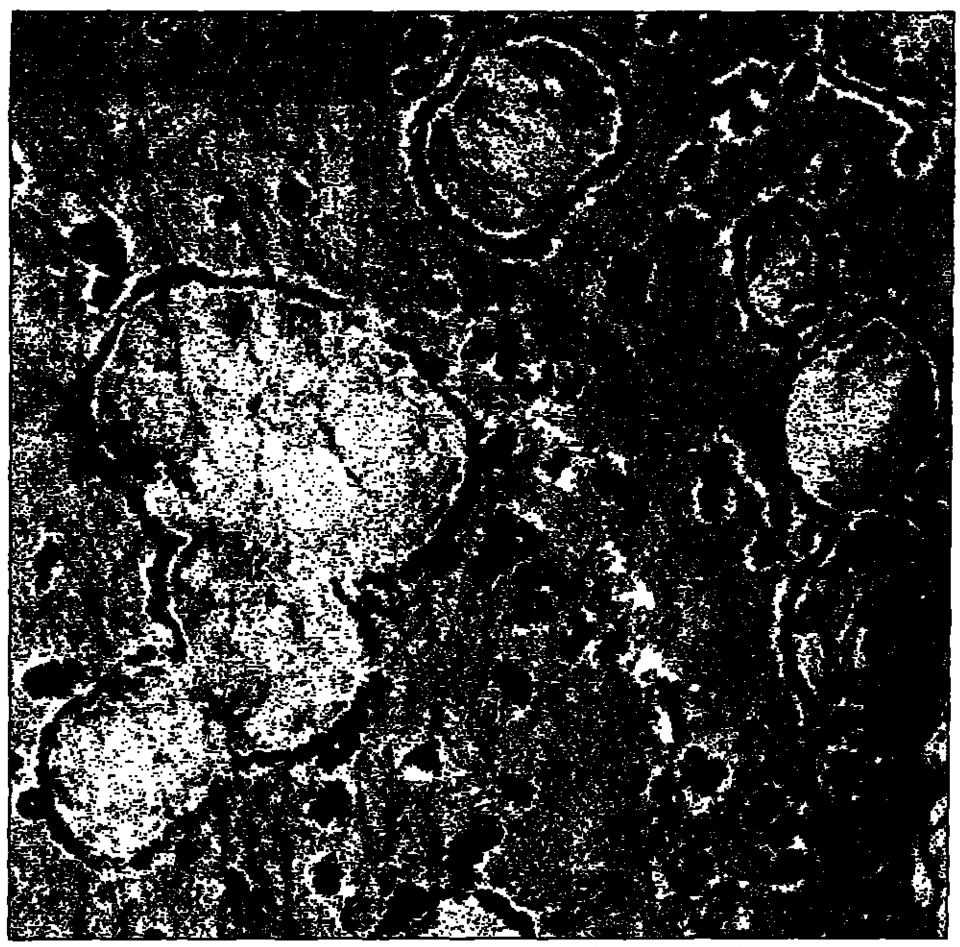
Other were more sceptical. Dr John Kerridge of the University of California at San Diego said that the conclusion was "at best premature and more probably wrong".

At the Open University in Milton Keynes, sections of the same meteorite were being studied yesterday by British researchers. Dr Monica Grady of the Natural History Museum said that she was very excited by the claims.

"Originally we thought the fossils were pockets of alteration where the structure had been altered by fluids. But the Americans' explanation is completely plausible and absolutely thrilling."

Assault on Mars, page 3
William Rees-Mogg, page 16
Leading article, page 17


HOW MARTIAN LIFE MAY HAVE FALLEN TO EARTH
①
FOUR BILLION YEARS AGO
The climate of Mars was warm and wet. It changed when the orbit of Mars altered, causing the seas to evaporate, leaving behind biological sediments. Mars is left barren and freezing.
Seas evaporate
Complex organic molecules in sediment
②
15 MILLION YEARS AGO
The impact of an asteroid blasts out sedimentary surface rock. Thousands upon thousands of rocks are left to meander through space, orbiting the Sun.
Earth
Venus
Mercury
Mars
Path of meteorite from Mars
③
13 THOUSAND YEARS AGO
One piece of material slowly spirals in towards the Sun, but is swept up by the Earth's gravitational pull and crashes to Earth, landing in Antarctica
④
12 YEARS AGO
Scientists in Antarctica find the meteorite. It is one of a dozen easily noticed against the frozen wastes of the South Pole.
Geoffrey Sims/Paul Bryant



A section of the rock which may have revealed evidence of life on Mars

Short breaks ranks and says Labour could lose

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

TONY BLAIR suffered his worst blow since becoming Labour leader last night when a member of the Shadow Cabinet openly voiced doubts over whether the party would win the next general election.

In an astonishing interview in this week's *New Statesman* Clare Short, who was demoted in Mr Blair's front bench reshuffle two weeks ago, suggested that Labour was in danger of throwing away victory and criticised the direction in which he was leading the party. Without attacking Mr Blair directly, Miss Short, who was moved from the job of transport spokesman to the backwater of overseas development, delivered an outspoken tirade against the Labour leader's advisers whom she suggested were the forces of darkness.

Miss Short said in the interview: "It is absolutely imperative for Britain and the party that we win. If we don't win it would be the end of Labour as a party of power at least for a generation, if not for ever. I have thought for the first time over the past few weeks that we could throw away that victory."

Miss Short was moved from her high profile post after a series of gaffes that has embarrassed the leadership. The aim was to put her in a less politically sensitive area. But her interview will be seen by many in the leadership as an amazing act of revenge for her demotion and it is likely to be seen as a virtual incitement to Mr Blair to dismiss her from any formal speaking post. She cannot be ousted from the Shadow Cabinet formally because she was elected to it.

She attacked what she saw as Mr Blair's misguided strategy. She criticised the "obsession with the media and focus groups" which she said was making Labour looking as if it wanted power at any price and as if it did not stand for anything. She said that the people around Mr Blair who thought that he had got to be made to look strong were making him less attractive.

"This is a very stupid thing to do. He came along as a fresh, young, principled and decent man and some people are trying to turn him into a macho man." She added: "I know they are doing it because they think it is the way to win, but I think they are making the wrong judgment and they endanger our victory." She called for a "pulling back from where we are now". She said: "Tony should be more of his principled self. He should talk more about what we stand for and not be so much a strong leader above us all. There should be less modification over the things we stand for and pruning it down and down and down to be acceptable to the *Daily Mail* because I do not think the *Daily Mail* will ever support us."

Miss Short does not name the Blair advisers whom she has so clearly in her sights. But they will be recognised within the party as Peter Mandelson, recently appointed as Mr Blair's chief election planner and a long-time confidant; Alastair Campbell, his chief press secretary; and Tim Allan, Mr Campbell's deputy. Miss Short is known to be resentful about the way Mr Blair's media advisers privately criticised her after a series of controversial statements, particularly her call for the legalisation of cannabis.

She joked that she sometimes called those people

Continued on page 2, col 3

Bank says that rates must rise

The Bank of England told *Kenneth Clarke* that he must raise interest rates "sooner rather than later" to keep the battle against inflation on course. *The Bank also set* itself on a collision course with the Government over tax cuts by expressing concern about borrowing .... Page 2
Anatole Kaletsky, page 27

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Hunt for Caroline killer starts again from scratch

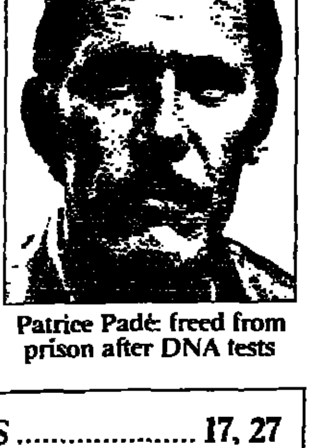
BY JOANNA BALE AND BEN MACINTYRE

A TRAMP was released from prison in Brittany last night after apparently being cleared of raping and murdering Caroline Dickinson.

Patrice Padé, 39, withdrew his murder confession after DNA tests proved that he was not the rapist, throwing the investigation into disarray.

The police now want to question again five boys from Launceston College who were on the school trip when Caroline was killed at a youth hostel in Pleine Fougères.

Police are also expected to renew their inquiries about a young man with blond hair seen wearing a military-style parka jacket, who is believed to have attacked two other women near the village in the days before and after the murder. M Padé, a known sex offender who was arrested two days after the killing on July 18, hid his face as he was driven away from prison, by his lawyer, René Blanchard yesterday. M Blanchard, who secured the release after a two-hour meeting with the investigating judge Gérard Zaug, said that his client was no longer a suspect. Detectives had failed to prove that M Padé was even in Pleine Fougères on the night Caroline died — he claimed to be 15 miles away — and M Blanchard said that the conditions under which he had been questioned were unsatisfactory.



Patrice Padé: freed from prison after DNA tests

M Padé was nevertheless placed under judicial control with an obligation to live at a certain address so that police can interview him again.

The local police, who began their investigation from scratch with house-to-house inquiries last night — might now be pulled off the case and replaced by detectives from the regional headquarters, according to rumours last night.

Detectives also suggested that the hunt could move to Launceston. An officer involved in the investigation said that the police in Cornwall had offered to help, although Chief Inspector Frank Porter of Launceston police said: "We have received no request from France."

Test captains in a whole new ball game

BY ALAN LEE, CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

ONCE it was a sacred ritual of the English sporting summer, the two cricket captains marching to the middle to toss for choice of innings. Now, as that tradition has become distorted by the demands of television, the captains engage in a second, very private ritual.

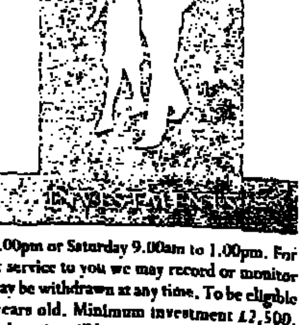
This morning, somewhere beneath the main stand at Headingley, Michael Atherton of England and Wasim Akram of Pakistan will conduct a preliminary toss overseen by Peter van der Merwe, the match referee. This toss will be to decide the not inconsequential matter of which brand of ball will be used in the second Test.

England want to use balls manufactured by the Duke company, because they are inclined to swing only at the start of their minimum 80-over lifespan. Pakistan, who possess two of the finest swing bowlers in the world, prefer Reader balls for their tendency to begin swinging extravagantly in mid-innings.

The rules of the International Cricket Council state that when a host country has two authorised manufacturers and the teams disagree over which to use, a toss must resolve the issue. At Lord's, a fortnight ago, Pakistan won the toss and the game, the Reader ball performing contortions for Waqar Younis.

Both captains agree that this is a highly influential factor in the series, yet it is decided behind closed doors, leaving spectators ignorant of its outcome and perhaps its existence. The toss will take place after the captains have studied the pitch, and will allow them time to revise their final XIs before they pick their way through the television cameras, wires and presenters to make the official toss.

Test preview, page 44



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Mayhew bans Bogside stage of Apprentice Boys' march

BY NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

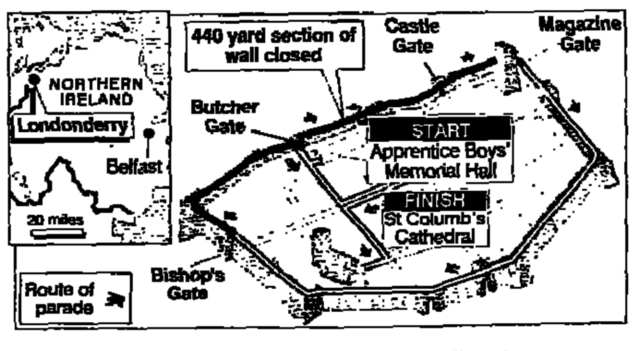
SIR PATRICK MAYHEW, the Northern Ireland Secretary, sought last night to prevent sectarian violence in Londonderry this weekend by banning loyalists from marching along a contentious section of the city walls.

Armed police and soldiers mounted a huge security operation last night to seal off the quarter-mile stretch of the walls which overlooks the Roman Catholic Bogside area of the city. The Apprentice Boys will be able to hold their traditional parade along the disputed section of the walls on Saturday only if they reach agreement with nationalists who are opposed to their march.

Unionists last night condemned Sir Patrick's decision, which they said was designed to appease nationalists. Gregory Campbell, a Democratic Unionist in Londonderry, said: "I am outraged. If people expect us to lie down and accept this, they are mistaken."

Last night's move, which bans parades and public meetings on the stretch of the walls until midnight on August 31, came after nationalists and loyalists failed to reach agreement over Saturday's march. There appeared to be little chance of a compromise last night after church leaders in Londonderry held inconclusive talks with the two sides.

Sir Patrick said last night that he had acted after Sir Hugh Annesley, the Chief Constable of the RUC, advised him that the police and the Army would face "undue demands" if the parade went ahead. He said: "I have a duty to do my best to protect the lawful rights of everybody. Sometimes they conflict and that is the problem ... my purpose in making this order is to assist the RUC in its task of preserving public order and protecting the community, and is not intended to favour any side in the current dispute." The Northern Ireland Secretary appealed to both communities in Londonderry to maintain calm.



The Government's move last night contrasted with its refusal to take action during the violent disturbances over the Drumcree parade last month. Ministers have been accused of putting the RUC in an intolerable position by leaving them to make decisions about whether an Orange parade opposed by nationalists could go ahead. The RUC ordered the re-routing of the parade, but reversed its decision four days later in the face of loyalist disturbances throughout the Province.

Sir Patrick's decision last night will inflame Unionist fears that ministers are prepared to bow to threats of violence from nationalists. Unionists, who will converge on Londonderry this Saturday in support of the Apprentice Boys, said last night that Sir Patrick had acted after nationalists in the Bogside announced that they would hold a demonstration on Friday night to protest against the loyalist parade.

Ministers will insist that they acted impartially. However, they admit privately that the failure to face down the threat of loyalist violence at Drumcree last month did immense damage to the peace process and infuriated moderate nationalists.

☐ Irish police have found an underwater arms cache in Dundalk, a Co Louth town close to the border. A search of the Fain River yielded a rocket-launcher and 250 rounds of assorted ammunition. Police say the weapons, believed to be home-made, were badly corroded. They might have been dumped in the river.

☐ Scotland Yard anti-terrorist detectives yesterday appealed for information about a set of keys to lock-up garages. The appeal followed an operation to search garages in the Peckham area of southeast London. The searches have not uncovered any explosives, and police want to hear from anyone who recognises four keys, or knows which locks they fit. The keys are for a five-lever mortice Chubb lock, a Yale Union lock, a Tri-Circle padlock, and a longer key which might fit a council shed.

Detectives also want to hear from anyone who might have been telephoned by a man with a French, American or Irish accent between June 1 and July 15 interested in renting or sub-letting a lock-up garage or similar premises.

'With the scenario we face, we should be thinking about when, not if'

Bank tells Clarke rates must rise to contain inflation

BY JANET BUSH AND PHILIP WEBSTER

THE Bank of England told Kenneth Clarke yesterday that he must raise interest rates "sooner rather than later" to keep the battle against inflation on course.

The Bank also set itself on a collision course with the Government over tax cuts by expressing concern about public borrowing. Its latest Inflation Report says that the deficit must be cut to return the public finances to a "sustainable" course.

Although the Bank normally refrains from comment on tax policy, the clear implication was that Mr Clarke should not cut taxes in November. The interest rate warning was the latest sign of tension between the Bank and the Chancellor, who cut rates by a quarter point to 5.75 per cent in June against the advice of Eddie George, the Governor.

Mervyn King, the Bank's director of economics, said that it was deliberately putting its message in very clear and public terms to put pressure on the Chancellor not to play politics with inflation in the run-up to the election.

But Mr Clarke and other ministers, who believe the improvement in the housing market is the key to convincing people that the economic corner has been turned, are desperately keen to avoid having to put up rates again before the election. Some Conservatives even believe that he should cut them again.

John Townend, chairman of the Tory backbench finance committee, said last night that the Bank had always had a more "hairshirt" policy than was necessary. "I do not think the Bank expects him to put rates up. This is more of a shot across the bows to try to prevent him reducing them again."

But Malcolm Bruce, the Liberal Democrat Treasury spokesman, said the report showed that the Chancellor was putting the political interests of the Conservative Party before the country's long-term economic interests.

The Treasury was at pains to dismiss suggestions of a serious split between Mr Clarke and Mr George. Michael Jack, the Treasury Minister, said that they were at one in aiming to keep inflation down. Mr Clarke had always made clear that maintaining low inflation was the guiding light of his economic policy.

The Inflation Report concluded that an interest rate rise would be needed if the Government were to have a better than even chance of hitting its target of inflation at 2.5 per cent or less in two years' time.

Mr King said that Bank officials would be discussing whether to advise higher rates before the next monetary meeting with the Chancellor on September 4. "This is not the juncture when we should be cutting interest rates," he said. "With the scenario we are facing, we should be thinking about when to raise rates, not if."

Mr King emphasised that the Bank had opposed the Chancellor's decision to cut base rates in June and nothing had changed its view.

The Treasury dismissed talk of a serious split between Kenneth Clarke and Eddie George, saying that they were agreed on the need to keep inflation at a low level

Indeed, he made it clear that the Bank's greater pessimism on inflation since its report in May was largely because of the Chancellor's decision to defy the Bank.

The Bank is clearly concerned that the Chancellor may be swayed by political pressure from his own party to bolster the "feel-good" factor and expressed the hope that Mr Clarke would genuinely base his decisions on the economic evidence.

Despite the Bank's warnings, sections of the City remain convinced that Mr Clarke may be tempted to deliver one more rate cut to boost growth.

Andrew Cates, economist with UBS Ltd, said: "The Bank is shouting from the rooftops that the Chancellor should not under any circumstances cut base rates again. The Chancellor, though, is wearing his pre-election earplugs."

Gordon Brown, the Shadow Chancellor, said the Bank had concluded that the foundations of the economy were not strong enough for sustained growth and rising prosperity. "They say manufacturing investment has fallen and manufacturing output is expected to remain weak," he added.

"If interest rates are to be kept down and growth sustained, the Government must tackle the imbalance between consumption and investment in the economy and the investment gap with our competitors, both of which have derailed previous recoveries and threaten to derail this one."

Business alarm, page 23
Economic view, page 27

Age timebomb is a myth, say MPs

BY PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

FEARS that Britain is facing an imminent "demographic timebomb", with the State unable to pay the health and care costs of a rapidly growing pensioner population, were dismissed by an all-party committee of MPs yesterday.

In a report that will be seen as undermining calls from the Tory Right for radical measures to tackle the spiralling costs of care, the Commons Health Committee said that much of the speculation about a crisis was founded on unsound evidence or was "downright alarmist".

The report, described by Labour as "stern reprimand to the Government for its irresponsible scaremongering", gives a cool response to government proposals put forward in May to make the individual foot more of the cost of paying for care.

The committee declined to give a view on a key proposal outlined by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, for a "partnership scheme" in which people would take out insurance plans to "buy protection" for some of their assets, such as their house or savings, to avoid having to sell everything to pay for the costs of residential care later in life.

The Government hopes such packages will be on the market next year, but it angered the committee by refusing to disclose estimates of the likely cost of the schemes.

In a sharp rebuke to ministers, the committee said: "We deprecate the Government's failure to provide even rough-and-ready costings of its various options. Until such costings are provided, the taxpayer is being invited to sign a blank cheque."

It added that the status quo, continuing to finance long-term care mainly from general taxation, was a "defensible option which is both possible and affordable".

Short attack

Contined from page 1

around Mr Blair as "the people who live in the dark". She says: "We go to the Shadow Cabinet. We go to the NEC. Everything we do is in the light. They live in the dark. It is a good place for them." She repeatedly stresses that she believes Mr Blair's advisers are acting in good faith but she says they are mistaken.

Miss Short's attack will be seized upon with glee by the Conservatives who could not have had a better gift to begin their summer of campaigning against Mr Blair.

They were buoyed yesterday by further signs that Labour's lead over the Conservatives is narrowing. An ICM poll in *The Guardian* suggested that Labour's lead had fallen from 21 points to 12 points since April, although Labour pointed out that its own standing had not been reduced in the latest poll and that the Conservatives had gained at the expense of the Liberal Democrats.

Even so the finding has given an edge to the summer campaigning of both the main parties. The Tories, believing that their improvement is due to a greater appreciation of the return of the "feelgood" factor and the success of their onslaught against Labour, are planning further attacks on Labour's fitness to govern by Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, and Michael Portillo, the Defence Secretary.

The finding will be used by Mr Blair to reinforce his message that there can be no complacency. If the lead is to be cut at all strategists would prefer it to happen now rather than closer to the general election, when the Tories could build on the momentum during the campaign. There is no sign yet of jitters in the high command but if the trend continues over the summer the spectre of the 1992 election, which Labour lost after consistently leading in the polls, might return.

Peter Mandelson, said that the poll was good news for the party because it showed that its vote remained solid.

"There is no erosion of our share of the vote. We have a sizeable lead over the Tories," he said.

London to Dover falls to French

BY JONATHAN PRYNN, TRANSPORT CORRESPONDENT

A FRENCH company yesterday won the franchise to run trains between London and the Channel ports. Générale des Eaux was provisionally awarded the £200 million-a-year contract to run rail services between London Victoria and stations through the Kent commuter belt to Dover, Folkestone and Ramsgate.

The sale of the South East Trains franchise comes eight months after the port of Calais was rebuffed in its planned takeover of Dover harbour after the intervention of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

The deal means that it will be possible to board an SNCF train at Paris, change to a French-run Channel ferry at Calais before completing the journey to London on another French-operated service from Dover. CGEA, the transport subsidiary of Générale des Eaux, is expected to take over the running of the franchise from British Rail in September or October. It beat off competition from a Canadian business consortium, the Scottish based Stagecoach bus company and a local management group to secure the deal.

The 15-year franchise agreement, which includes a pledge to replace South East's dilapidated slam-door rolling stock, some of which dates to the 1950s, is the second to be won by the French multinational.

The awards give Générale des Eaux control of rail services in a swath of southern England from Bognor Regis to Rochester. In April it won the Network SouthCentral franchise for commuter services.

Glenda Jackson, Labour's transport spokeswoman, said: "John Major has succeeded where Napoleon failed. He has given the French a foothold on the South Coast. Foreign investment in Britain is to be welcomed but this is a case of French fat cats lapping up English taxpayers' cream."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Twin abortion doctor faces hospital review

Phillip Bennett, the obstetrician who approved the abortion of a healthy twin, is facing an internal review. He has already spoken several times with John Cooper, the chief executive of Hammersmith Hospitals NHS Trust, since his interview with a Sunday newspaper disclosed the first selective termination of its kind in Britain. The admission that the abortion had already taken place came after 48 hours of attempts to have it halted.

Last night Stephen Dorrell, the Health Secretary, expressed "deep concern" over the way in which details of the abortion were disclosed to the media. He said the law had not been broken but admitted he had personal reservations about the case. Professor Bennett said yesterday: "The original story arose as a misunderstanding between myself and journalists interviewing me."

Ethnic lifestyles

More than half of children of West Indian origin in Britain are being brought up by single mothers, a government report on ethnic minorities says. About 54 per cent of young Afro-Caribbeans have no father at home, compared with 33 per cent of Africans, 16 per cent of whites and 11 per cent of Chinese. The rejection of marriage by West Indians reflects a culture that is being slowly eroded, the report says.

Hooliganism declines

Football hooligans are being beaten by improved police tactics and better security, according to figures released yesterday showing arrests are down for the fourth season in succession. Details from the Home Office and the National Criminal Intelligence Service show arrests fell by more than 15 per cent last season from 5,105 in the previous season to 4,334. Police believe the fall is partly due to ground improvements, CCTV and careful segregation.

Near-miss for train

A rail disaster in west London was only narrowly avoided last Sunday when five track engineers using bogus safety certificates left equipment in the path of an oncoming train, an internal Railtrack safety log has revealed. The train, on the main London to Portsmouth line, was forced to make an emergency stop to avoid ploughing into the equipment. Safety experts said the incident confirmed their fears about the use of private contractors since the start of privatisation.

Councils' hotline success

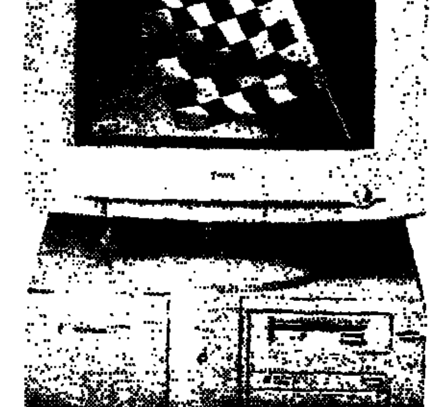
Councils are starting to win the battle against fraud with the help of a telephone hotline for informers and computer technology. The Fraudwatch hotline was set up by Labour-controlled Reading council last November and the scheme now covers 40 authorities nationwide led by all the main parties, with a further 100 considering becoming members. Since its launch 5,300 people have passed on information. Reading alone expects to save £100,000 this year.

Man guilty of blood plot

A hospital orderly was found guilty of plotting with his girlfriend, a nursing sister, to tamper with a blood sample to avoid paying maintenance for his child by another woman. A jury at Maidstone Crown Court convicted Timothy Anderson, 24, of Lenham, Kent, of perverting the course of justice. He will be sentenced, after the preparation of reports, with his girlfriend, Elizabeth Mills, 33, who admitted the charge. Both were released on bail.

'Scuba diver' indentified

Zoologists at Cambridge believe the nautilus, a mollusc that lives deep in the oceans, uses its buoyancy tanks to provide it with oxygen. Dr Robert Boutillier reports in *Nature* that the nautilus goes into a "standby" mode, in which its metabolism almost stops, when in danger from predators. It can survive in oxygen-poor waters for almost a day, using its many-chambered shell like a scuba diver while waiting for the predator to disappear.



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Prospect of making an earth-trembling discovery lifts space scientists' excitement to new heights

Three missions destined for date with Red Planet

By Nicholas Booth

A NEW assault will begin on Mars this autumn. Blasting off from Cape Canaveral and Kazakhstan, no fewer than three unmanned spacecraft will be launched towards the Red Planet to arrive next summer. They will drop landers, robotic vehicles and automatic weather stations onto the surface.

Howard Shaw of the University of Kent at Canterbury said: "These missions have been planned for some time. Today's announcement adds a new dimension to our efforts."

Two of the three missions are built by Nasa and will be launched in late October. But it is the Russian Mars 96 mission, scheduled for launch on November 16, which will shed the most light on the possibility of Martian life

After arriving in orbit around Mars, the spacecraft will fire two mortar-like shells into the soil. Known as penetrators, they will make detailed chemical analyses of the soil and the permafrost believed to lie underneath it. On impact, the front end of the penetrators will separate out and excavate a bore hole — perhaps as long as ten metres, experts believe. A TV camera and automatic weather station will remain on the surface and act like an anchor.

"Officially, the Mars 96 mission is not looking for life," Mr Shaw said. "But the penetrators are the only vehicles capable of analysing the soil directly in the new missions." His group at Kent's Unit for Space Science is responsible for calibrating the instruments on board, which also include seismometers and heat sensors.

Martian landscape: plenty of rubble, but what else?

The great mystery from earlier analyses of the Martian soil is its lack of organic material. These are molecules which comprise long chains of carbon that are the basis for life. Their absence is puzzling: if there were Martian micro-organisms, their mortal remains should have been left behind. But the action of sunlight on the topsoil may have removed them.

Underneath the surface soil, scientists believe there is a layer of permafrost perhaps ten metres deep. Within this frozen material there may be further evidence for the fossilized remains of life which was formed in the earliest epochs of Martian history.

The Mars 96 orbiter will also drop two landers onto the surface, as will the first US Pathfinder mission to Mars, which will also carry a small, automatic rover. At the same time, the Mars Global Surveyor will map the whole of the planet down to a resolution of one metre.

Cuts in the Russian space programme mean that a further mission in 1998 has been cancelled. But Nasa has a series of missions that will culminate in the return of Martian samples in 2005.

The meteorite in which Martian life may have been found is part of a rare group of itinerant rocks that spend thousands of years wandering through space. Many thousands of these pieces of interplanetary flotsam have landed on Earth, but only a dozen are believed to have come from Mars. These rare objects have a chemical composition broadly similar to soil samples analysed on the surface of the Red Planet 20 years ago by Nasa's Viking spacecraft.

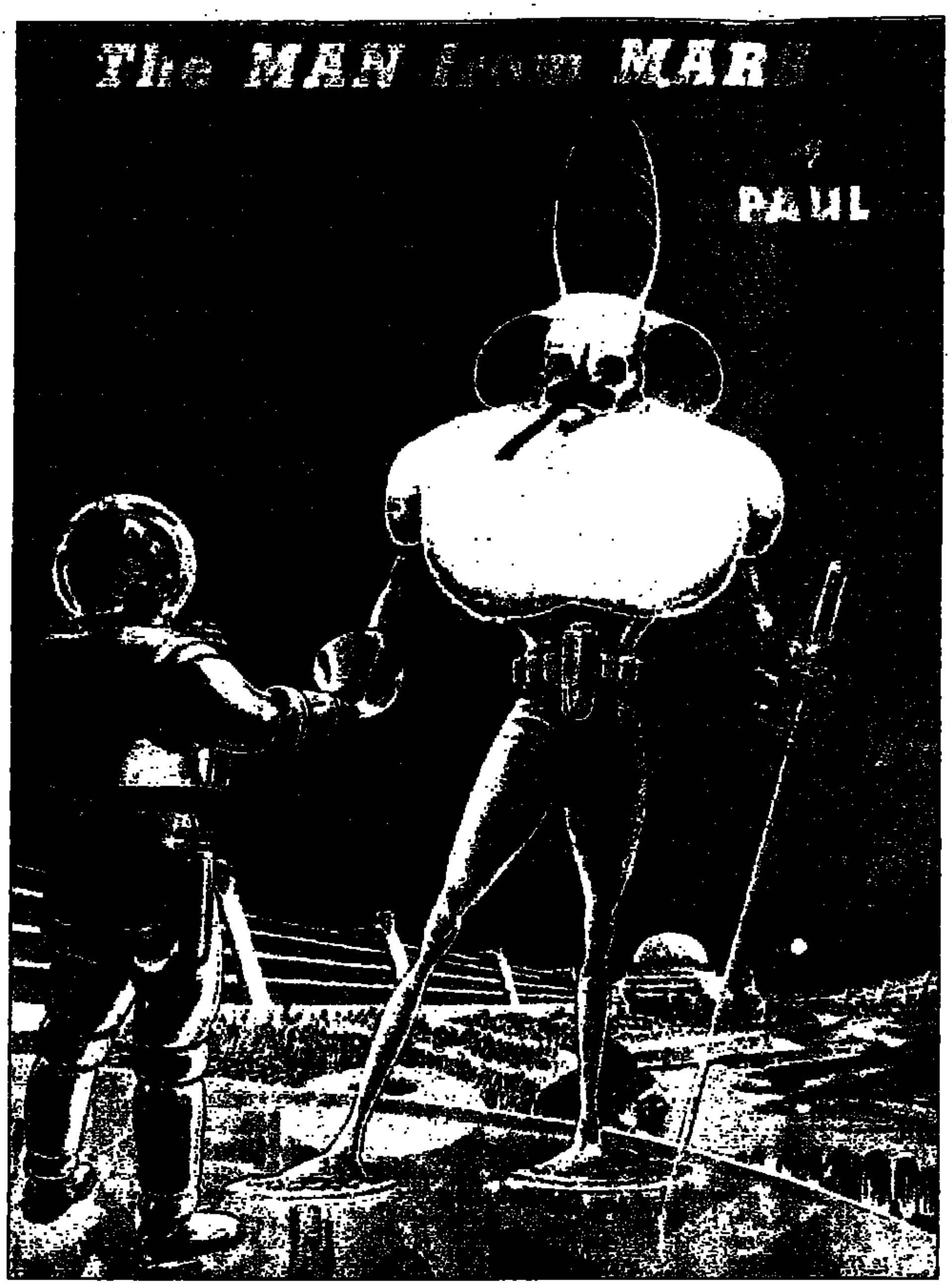
Nasa's evidence of Martian bacteria has prompted bookmakers hastily to check the small print in the wording of wagers on the discovery of extra-terrestrial life. When man reached the moon before 1970, William Hill lost £100,000.

Unfortunately for any punters claiming payouts on 500-1 bets placed before Tuesday's announcement, proof is required that the life forms discovered are "intelligent".

Graham Sharpe, of William Hill, which stands to lose £1 million, said: "For the last 20 years we have offered bets if Nasa confirms the existence of intelligent extra-terrestrial life. We are glad we inserted that word intelligent."

Both William Hill and Ladbroke's agree that microscopic fossils on a comet in Antarctica do not qualify as little green men. However, just to be sure, Hill's cut the odds from 500-1 to 25-1, and Ladbroke's from 250-1 to 50-1.

William Rees-Mogg, page 16
Leading article, page 17



Expeditions to Mars have given scientists a clearer view of the planet than that envisaged by some writers, who imagined bizarre aliens walking its surface

British scientist was slow at school

By Adam Fresco

A BRITISH scientist who helped to discover evidence of extra-terrestrial life on Mars was a slow learner at school and told he would have to work "very hard" to pass just three O levels.

Dr Simon Clemett, 28, from Havant in Hampshire, has received international acclaim for his work as one of nine Nasa experts who analysed the meteorite for evidence of life-forms, but his school reports left a little to be desired. He did not start reading until he was eight.

But it was discovered that the boy was dyslexic. After receiving help, he went on to gain 11 O levels, five A levels and an S level and to win a place at Oxford to read chemistry. He took his PhD, in physical chemistry, at Stanford University, California.

Dr Clemmet's father Colin, 67, who worked for the Ministry of Defence researching airborne communications, said: "Once Simon realised his difficulties were not his fault, he grew in confidence and started to read. He loved anything about science. The stars and dinosaurs were his favourites."

Mr Clemett added that his son's discovery was "an amazing progression for him from when he was at school. I am very proud of him."

In the beginning, did God also create aliens?

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

THE prospect of life on Mars threw religious groups into turmoil last night as they tried to reconcile the biblical story of Creation with the latest scientific discovery.

Some creationists, who believe that God created the world in a week, as described in *Genesis*, dismissed the discovery as "clutching at straws" and demanded further proof.

Dr John Peet, a retired chemistry lecturer, of the Biblical Creation Society, said: "Creationists would be in an extremely difficult position if intelligent life was found elsewhere, because that would seem to conflict completely with what the Bible says."

But he added: "In terms if non-intelligent life, there is not the same magnitude of problem because God could obviously put life anywhere. The Bible seems to teach that the Universe and the Earth were made specifically for Man, so it is difficult to see how life could appear elsewhere. But there is nothing in the Bible which says there is no plant life on any other planet."

A small fortune fell to earth for David Bowie yesterday as radio stations played his 1970s songs *Life on Mars* and *Space Oddity*. Each play would have earned Bowie royalties ranging from a few pence for small independent stations to several pounds from bigger stations. Classic FM played *Mars* from Gustav Holst's *The Planets*.

When ancient bones or other evidence of evolution taking place over millions of years are unearthed by archaeologists, extraordinary efforts are made by creationist groups to prove that the Earth is no more than a few thousands years old, and was created specially for Man by God.

Geoff Chapman, a Methodist lay preacher and secretary of the Creation Resources Trust, a body which promotes the biblical view of Creation, said: "I doubt they can prove this meteorite actually came from Mars. I would doubt very much that there is such a thing as extra-terrestrial life.

"Evolutionists are desperate to find evidence of extra-terrestrial life. They would jump at the slightest bit of circumstantial evidence that there is life on Mars. This is clutching at straws." If intelligent life were discovered elsewhere, his faith would remain unshaken.

Basil Varnam, general administrator of the Pentecostal Assemblies of God in Britain, said: "We are more concerned about life on Earth and in Heaven than on other planets. We tend to take scientific 'evidence' with a pinch of salt — we don't agree with the Darwin theory of evolution, for instance."

The mainstream Christian bodies were less perturbed. Keith Ewing, of the Evangelical Alliance, said: "The discovery is no threat to Christian belief and it would be wrong to portray science and Christianity as in total conflict. The conflict arises only from an ideological position that science is the only valid form of knowledge and has got all the answers."

A spokesman for the Roman Catholic Church said: "There is no proof yet, but if there were then it would cause some sort of rethink. But we will wait until they contact us."

The Rev David Streater, of the evangelical Church Society, said: "Even if you totally accepted the theory of evolution, the questions would still remain — who created the Big Bang and what was there before it?"

A Church of England spokesman said: "We believe that God created the whole universe so I don't think there could be a problem."

Rabbi Dr Jonathan Romain, of the Jewish Reform community, said: "Should any aliens be found to exist, they would be as much the creatures of God as are humans."

Early life may have advanced in parallel

By Nigel Hawkes, science editor

BIOLOGISTS believe that life began on Earth by the combination of elements that filled the seas with a rich soup of molecules. From what we know of the early history of Mars, exactly the same thing would have been happening there.

Somehow, molecules emerged that had the capacity to copy themselves — to reproduce. Experiments in which the process has been copied in the laboratory have got as far as producing amino acids, the building blocks of proteins and their simple cousins, peptides.

Until now, nobody has shown how a peptide can copy itself. By coincidence, this week's issue of *Nature* publishes a paper from scientists at the Scripps Institute in La Jolla, California, describing just such a self-replicating peptide.

From this to even simple forms of life is another huge step. The best guess is that the first single-cell life forms existed on Earth about 3.5 billion years ago, almost the same age as the structures identified on the Martian meteorite, which suggests that up to this time, life on Earth and on Mars may have advanced in step.

So what's new, shrug the watchers on ET Highway

From Giles Whittell in Los Angeles

AT THE Little A-Le-Inn on Nevada's Extraterrestrial Highway, news of life on Mars was greeted not so much with excitement as with interplanetary ennui.

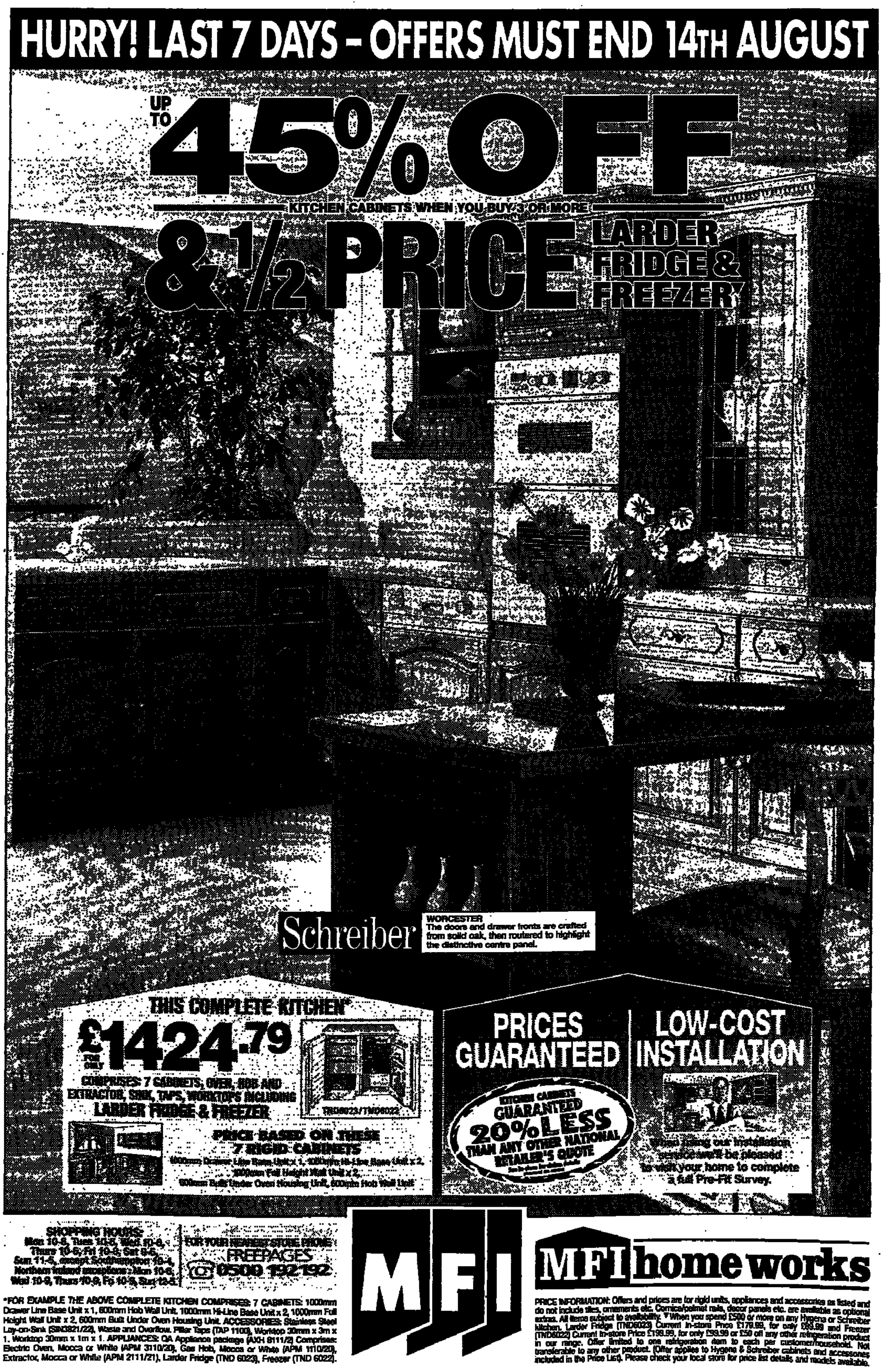
"Oh, really, they got proof now?" yawned Paula Clayton, proprietor of the only hostelry on route 375 through the hostile desert north of Las Vegas. "That was pretty much assumed round here. We are not alone."

Route 375, which used to be one of the loneliest roads in America, was officially designated ET Highway earlier this year and is to be adorned with signs welcoming passing aliens. Business at Mrs Clayton's motel, a UFO-watcher's Mecca in the village of Rachel, has gone "completely crazy" since the road was renamed, though she and her customers were unaware of the news from Nasa's Martian rock experts until alerted to it by *The Times*.

Pushed on the subject, the inkeeper admitted word of fossilised microbes from Mars would "start a buzz in the UFO community". But the received wisdom among the conspiracy theorists and amateur astronomers who flock here is that alien creatures and craft are already the subject of a massive 40-year US Government cover-up.

An extraterrestrial spacecraft crashed to earth at Roswell, New Mexico, in 1947 and has been stored ever since in a vault beneath 'Area 51', a secret Pentagon facility within the Nellis nuclear test range near Rachel. UFO enthusiasts fervently believe.

A gathering of 4,000 is expected in Rachel later this month to demand the opening to the public of Area 51, whose existence the Government acknowledged for the first time last year. That, says Mrs Clayton, is where to find the little green men.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‘A sales manager has targets, but the number of funerals taken is not a valid performance indicator’

Vicars to appraise each other’s success in church

By Ruth Gledhill, religion correspondent

VICARS, traditionally answerable only to God, are asked to be sit in judgment on each other under guidelines being drawn up by the Church of England.

More than 13,000 clergy are to have "peer appraisal reviews", where they will be required to assess each other's performance from the pew to the pulpit, give credit where due and work out areas where improvement is needed. The appraisals, the latest in a series of secular management techniques to infiltrate the Church, will help clergy to assess how they carry out tasks such as baptisms, weddings and funerals.

Rather than working to targets — such as numbers of baptisms — clergy are being encouraged to improve the quality of pastoral care they offer. They are said to welcome the prospect. Stuck in far-flung parishes, sometimes for years, they can often feel isolated and unnoticed by the hierarchy, or frustrated by the lack of feedback.

Few congregations are prepared to respond openly to the quality of a priest's sermons or ministry, although parishioners might sometimes attempt to undermine a vicar by writing to his or her bishop behind their back. Many dioceses have introduced performance review systems recently but these vary and often rely on assessment by a bishop or his nominee.

Peer group reviews are favoured by clergy because they help them set their own agenda and operate outside a system of reward and punishment. The scheme, outlined in *People Management*, a magazine for personnel managers, will be debated at a church conference on clergy training in September. Guidelines for each of England's 43 dioceses are expected to be published in March.

Rev Bell: said clergy were answerable to God

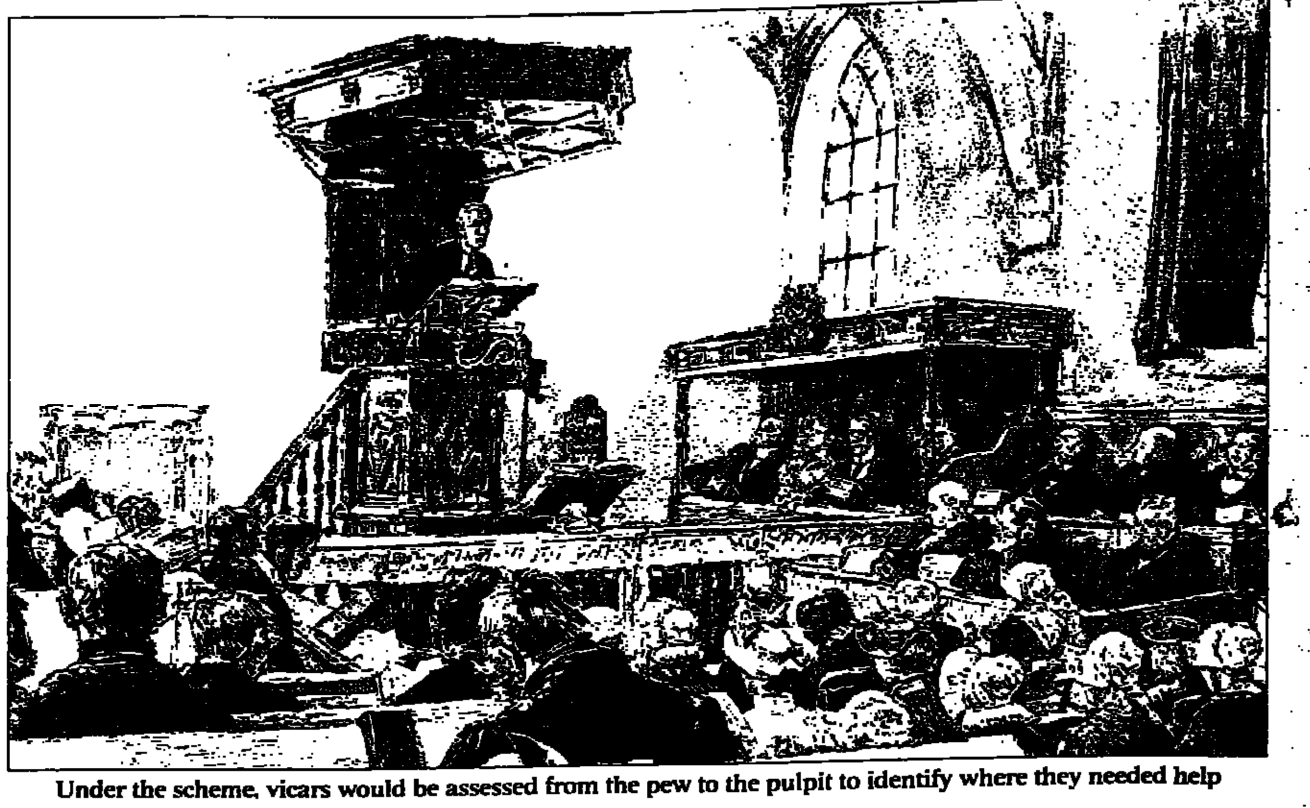
The Rev Margaret Jackson, of the Advisory Board of Ministry, said: "It is not about performance in the sense of how many baptisms or funerals the clergy take. It is more to do with how they, as a priest or deacon, develop their ministry in a particular place.

"A sales manager can talk about targets, but for clergy the number of funerals they have taken is not a particularly valid performance indicator. For them, it is not how many they have taken, but how well they have taken them."

She added: "It is ridiculous to try to ape commerce, because there are fewer clear lines of responsibility in the Church. But most clergy are keen to set their own agenda and be encouraged to work towards reaching its targets."

The Rev Beaumont Stevenson, who has helped to introduce such a scheme in the Oxford diocese, where bishops, archdeacons and clergy are all involved, said: "The clergy here pair up with someone, to give them ongoing support and to help them to take credit for what they do well, as well as to pinpoint what is causing them grief."

He said the idea came to him from his work as chaplain in a psychiatric hospital, where the nurses use a similar scheme. Rather than speaking in terms of targets and performance, he tells clergy to look for a "desired outcome". Mr Stevenson said: "For example, I'm a hospital chaplain. For me, the fewer people in church the better, because it means patients are home for the weekend."



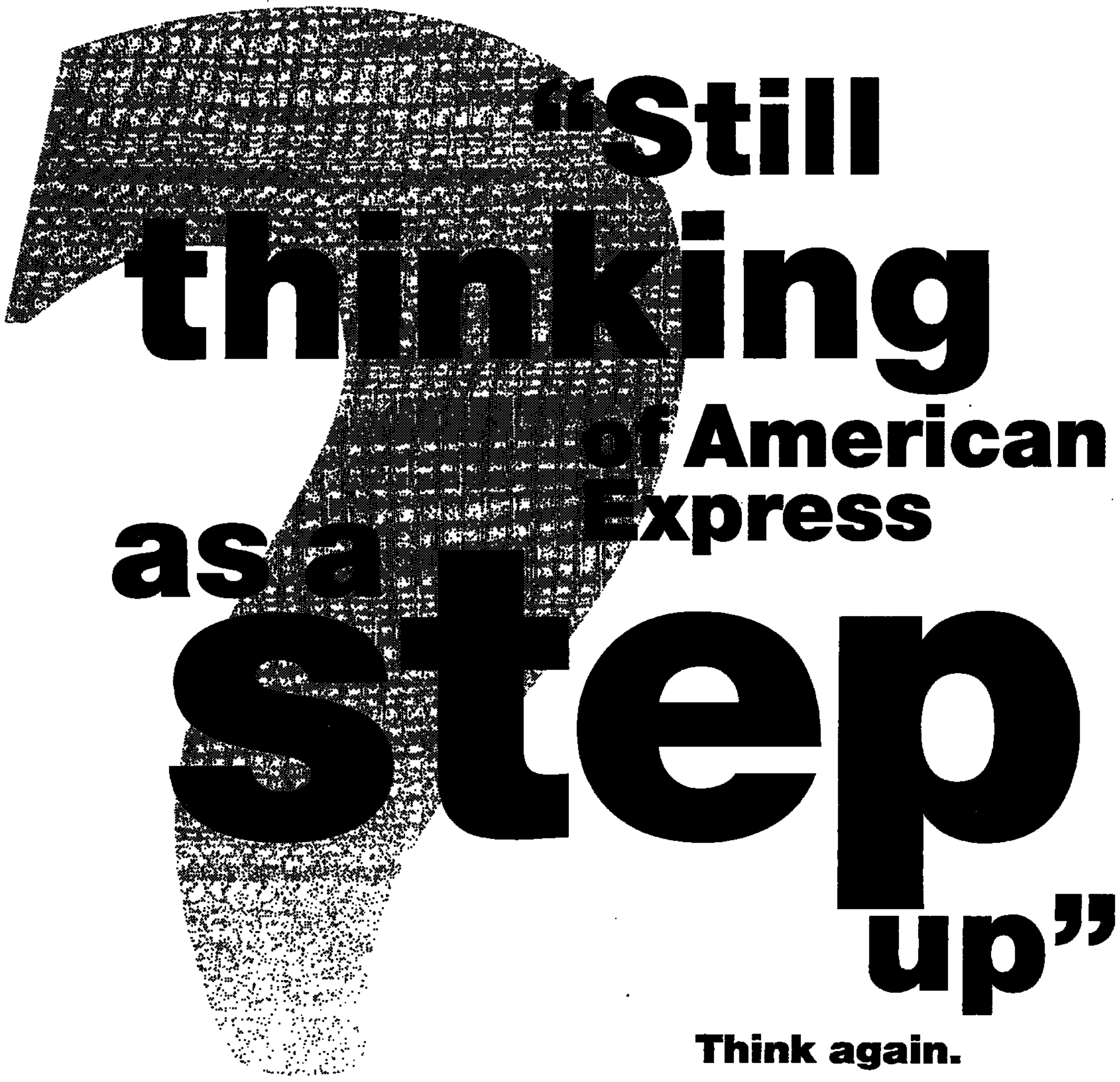
KIM SCOTT CLARK

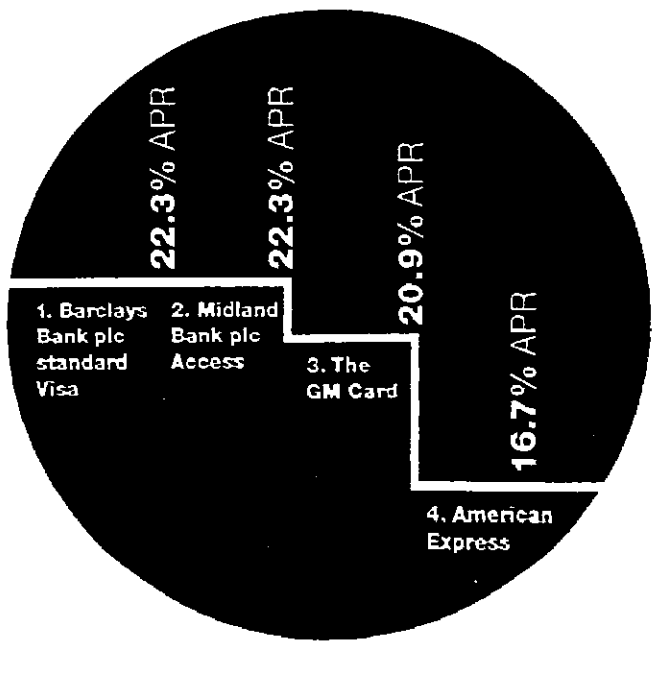
Under the scheme, vicars would be assessed from the pew to the pulpit to identify where they needed help

Peer reviews could help discover areas where change was needed, he said. "If you are weak in administration or youth work, you may have to declare you are no good in this area and see how this can be delegated."

The Rev Tony Bell, of the clergy section of the Manufacturing, Science, Finance union, which has more than 600 members, said: "We are answerable to God. We are theologians, pastoral leaders, not managers. Appraisal is a good idea, but one of the reasons it is frowned upon is that it is seen as a means of diocesan control."

The union is expected to recommend a system of trained clerical appraisers, who will train other clergy. Other management techniques adapted by the Church include psychometric testing, which is being introduced to help bishops to assess recruits to the ministry.





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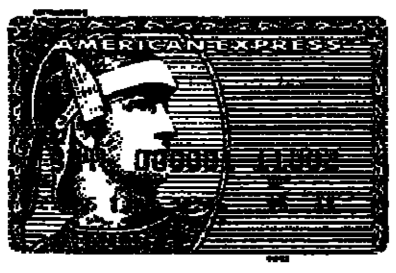

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Euro-sceptics seek boycott of Sainsbury’s

By Andrew Pierce, political correspondent

HARDLINE opponents of the European Union are calling for a nationwide boycott of the Sainsbury's supermarket chain in protest at the family's support for pro-Brussels causes. Sainsbury's is at the top of a list of companies identified by the Campaign for an Independent Britain whose directors have made corporate or personal donations to federalist organisations.

David Sainsbury, chairman of the group, has donated about £250,000 to the European Movement. The money is being used for an autumn campaign in defence of the single currency. Mr Sainsbury has reportedly also donated a sum to the Federal Trust. Both organisations are fighting for closer integration and harmonisation in the EU.

The Campaign for an Independent Britain, whose president is the Tory Euro-sceptic MP Sir Richard Body, is urging its members to switch their weekly shopping expeditions to Tesco supermarkets. The TSB Lloyds group is also on the boycott list, along with British Telecom, the Rover group and Jaguar.

Sir Robin Williams, secretary of the campaign, which favours withdrawal from the EU, said: "Real money is being lined up by big businesses keen to sell out our country for their own narrow commercial advantages. Thousands of pounds are pouring into the coffers of pro-Brussels groups and a huge propaganda drive is being organised. It is time to make companies pay the price for their collaborative activities with the EU."

Quentin Davies, a Tory MP and vice chairman of the European Movement, was contemptuous of the boycott call. "How immature," he said. "These people really are barmy. The fact is our interests are in Europe which is why household names such as David Sainsbury are so heavily involved."

A spokeswoman for Sainsbury's would only say: "David Sainsbury makes donations in a personal, not a corporate, capacity."

Bupa sex taunt case settled with payout

By Michael Horsnell

A SALESWOMAN who claimed that a female boss teased her about her breasts and asked questions about her virginity withdrew her allegation of sexual harassment yesterday in return for compensation understood to be about £10,000.

Joanna Poole, 22, who brought the case against the healthcare company Bupa, said after the two-day industrial tribunal hearing in Croydon, south London: "I'm relieved it is all over. I just want to go home and go on holiday."

Poole: said female boss had humiliated her

Miss Poole, who earned £13,000 a year as a telesales worker, had told the tribunal that she felt humiliated by Christine Butland, 26, the sales manager at Bupa's offices in Staines, Surrey. She said that Mrs Butland had made comments about and touched her breasts, and made her tell a meeting details of how she had lost her virginity.

Bupa said Miss Poole had freely joined in the office banter and found it amusing.

After hearing legal argument, the tribunal chairwoman, Joan Mason, said: "Both parties have agreed to settle this case on terms agreed between them."

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Forte chain backs down over storm in a teashop

By Robin Young

DOMENICO FORTE, owner of a tearoom in Winchester, emerged victorious yesterday from a David and Goliath encounter with the mighty Forte hotel and restaurant chain, which had threatened legal action to stop him running his business under his own name.

Forte (UK) Ltd confirmed that it had abandoned its attempt to make Mr Forte change the name of his business from The Forte Tearooms. A spokeswoman for the company, now a subsidiary of the Granada group, said that she could not give a reason for the decision.

Between serving pots of tea at 95p each yesterday, Mr Forte said: "It is a victory for common sense. I think quite a few of my customers are Granada shareholders who wrote in and said how silly this was.

"Granada misunderstood the situation. They did not know that many other Fortes existed. There is a Forte running a café in Berwick-upon-Tweed and another with a restaurant in Brighton. I am a Forte and I am entitled to use my own name."

Mr Forte and his wife, Jiuseppjna, heard from solicitors for Forte (UK) within a fortnight of opening their first-floor tearoom in a Winchester sidestreet. Previously he had helped to run his family's ice-cream parlours and grills under the Forte name in the West Country before becoming head of religious education at a convent school.

The company said that the name must be changed within 14 days to avoid legal action for infringing the rights of its 96-bedroom Forte Crest Hotel, 200 yards away from the tearoom. It said: "The use of the name on the tearoom is clearly an infringement of our trade mark."

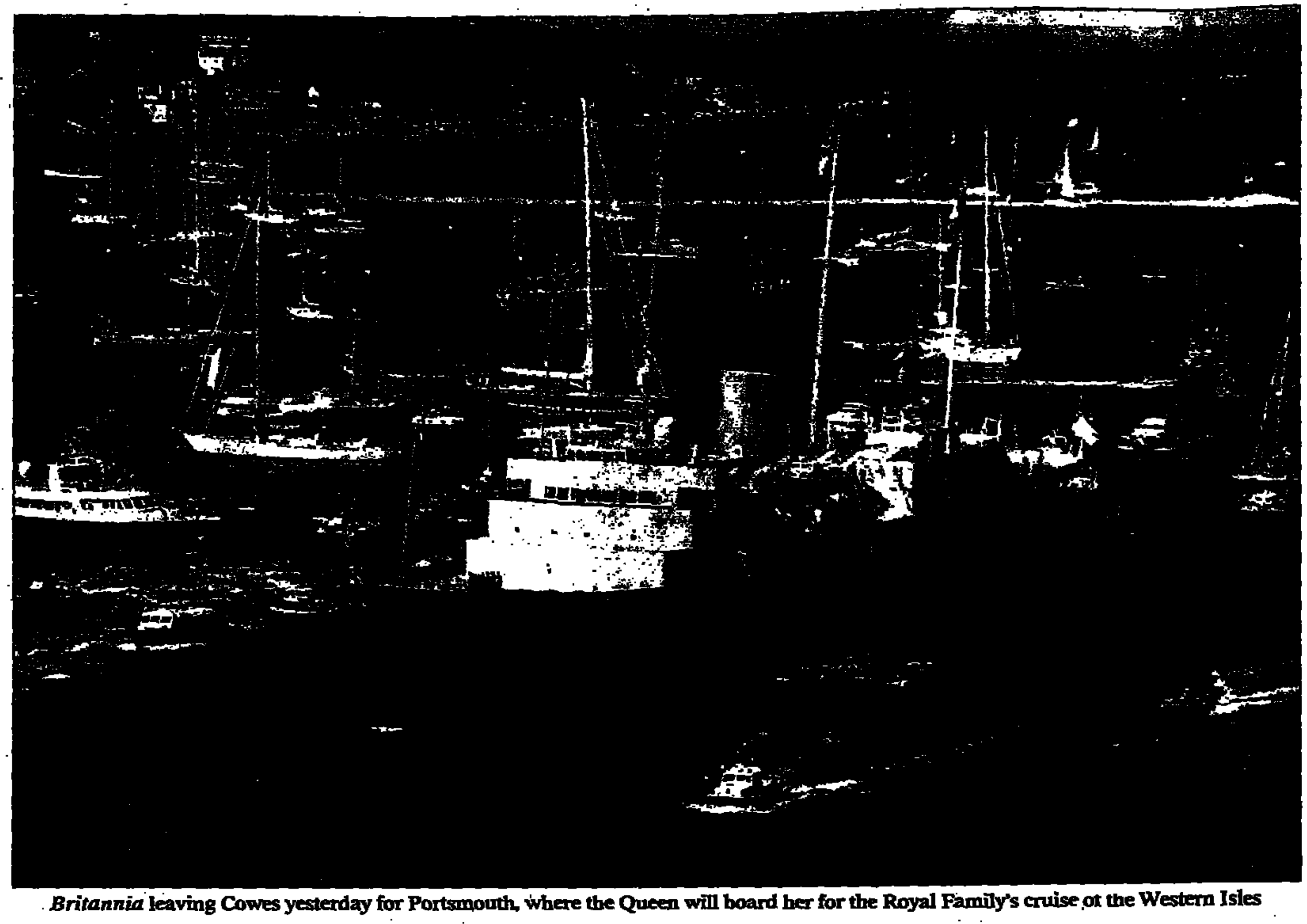
Mr Forte, 60, had been encouraged to resist changing the name of his 48-seat tearoom by Lord Denning, the former Master of the Rolls, who cited as precedent a judgment in favour of a man called Albert Hall who maintained his right to use that name for his business.

Yesterday Lord Denning, 93, praised Mr Forte for his courage in standing up to the corporate Forte. "I am very glad he has won. Forte UK were very wise not to pursue it. It shows credit on all concerned."

Mr Forte is distantly related to Lord Forte, who built the Forte hotel and catering empire from a milk bar opened in London in 1934. Lord Forte's father, who emigrated from the small Italian town of Casalattico at the same time as Mr Forte's grandfather, ran a café in Scotland.

In January Lord Forte's son, Sir Rocco Forte, lost control of the Forte company in a keenly contested £3.8 billion takeover by Granada. A spokesman for Sir Rocco said yesterday: "There must have been some very nervous people at Granada if they felt threatened by a tearoom."

Domenico Forte: opened tearoom with his wife



Britannia leaving Cowes yesterday for Portsmouth, where the Queen will board her for the Royal Family's cruise ot the Western Isles

Cowes bids rousing farewell to Britannia

By Kathryn Knight

TO THE roar of a 35-gun salute and the cheers of a crowd of 5,000, the Royal Yacht *Britannia* made her final departure from Cowes Harbour yesterday.

After 35 years of appearances at the annual regatta, *Britannia*, to be decommissioned next August, slipped anchor and left her traditional mooring opposite the Royal Yacht Squadron for the last time shortly after 9am.

The Duke of Edinburgh, wearing full naval uniform, Prince Edward and Prince Michael of Kent stood on the veranda deck as she sailed through the hundreds of yachts that had gathered to watch her on her way. Prince Edward could be seen taking photographs of the crowd, many of whom were in tears. Among the traces of lingering gun smoke, *Britannia* left for Portsmouth, where the Queen was due to board to begin her summer holiday cruise in the Western Isles. At 8am a shot from a waterfront cannon had marked the end as *Britannia* ran up the bunting to dress overall.

The Isle of Wight has long taken pride in *Britannia*'s presence at Cowes as a sign of royal endorsement, but the Government has said that she is too expensive to refit. Maintaining the yacht has cost £95 million in the past ten years. But the feeling yesterday was that her departure was a symbolic loss to the nation's heritage.

Maldwin Drummond, commander of the Royal Yacht Squadron, expressed deep sadness as he mingled with the crowds. "We are a maritime nation," he said. "*Britannia* is the principal focus for the nation at sea. To say goodbye to her is only acceptable if we can say hello to a suitable replacement." Mr Drummond is also chairman of a consortium that has submitted a plan for a sail training ship to replace *Britannia*.

Duke of Edinburgh and Prince Michael of Kent

Barry Field, Conservative MP for the Isle of Wight, had a lump in his throat as the crews of hundreds of yachts cheered *Britannia*, but hoped that she could be saved after discussing with Virginia Bottomley, the Heritage Secretary, the possibility of keeping the yacht in service until a replacement is built.

Other spectators called for lottery money to be used to reclaim *Britannia*. Lionel Fisher, former deputy mayor of Cowes, and his wife, Heather, have seen the yacht escorted into Cowes for 24 years. "We both feel very sad," Mr Fisher said.

Frederick and Jessie Booth, from Shanklin, have come to see the *Britannia* for many years. Mr Booth said: "It's like our own tradition and also the nation's is slipping away with *Britannia* over the horizon."

☐ A former friend of the Duchess of York has signed a book deal to tell of her relationship with her former financial adviser, John Bryan, who was made bankrupt on Tuesday. Allan Starkie, Mr Bryan's former business partner, has sold the manuscript of *Fergie: Her Secret Life* to the publisher Michael O'Mara.

Mr O'Mara said yesterday: "Allan Starkie's book is an explosive account of every element of the relationship between the Duchess and John Bryan .. It is extraordinarily frank and shocking."

Singapore boy to be freed if cash is returned

A young Briton facing jail in Singapore for allegedly stealing a woman's handbag will be freed soon and charges dropped if he returns the cash reported to be missing, prosecutors said. John David Raven, 18, who was on a rugby tour with other boys from the independent Arnold School in Blackpool, allegedly stole the bag, containing about £200, as a prank in a nightclub. It was later returned.

Killer on run

A convicted murderer has failed to return to jail after a weekend community visit. Anthony Creamer, 51, was due back at Standford Hill prison on the Isle of Sheppey, Kent, on Saturday. Police believe he may be with relatives in Rotterdam.

Flight grounded

Forest fires in Russia have grounded a 50-year-old Chipmunk trainer aircraft the RAF is attempting to fly round the world. The Chipmunk, which is flown by eye rather than radar, will probably give up its journey and return home via the Baltic states.

Two die in blast

Two workers were killed when an explosion and fire tore through the Scottish Adhesives factory in Glasgow. John Burke, 38, of Dennistoun, and James Brown, 35, of Knightswood, died as workmates tried to rescue them. Up to 200 people were evacuated.

Rise in tourists

The number of overseas visitors in May rose by 17 per cent on last year to 2.3 million, despite some of the coldest weather this century. They spent £995 million, up 5 per cent. The number from January to May was 9.1 million, up 9 per cent on 1995.

Trophy is saved

The original Blaydon races trophy is staying in the North East after being bought by Newcastle racecourse for an undisclosed sum. The silver trophy will be presented for the first time in 80 years at the revived meeting on August 26.

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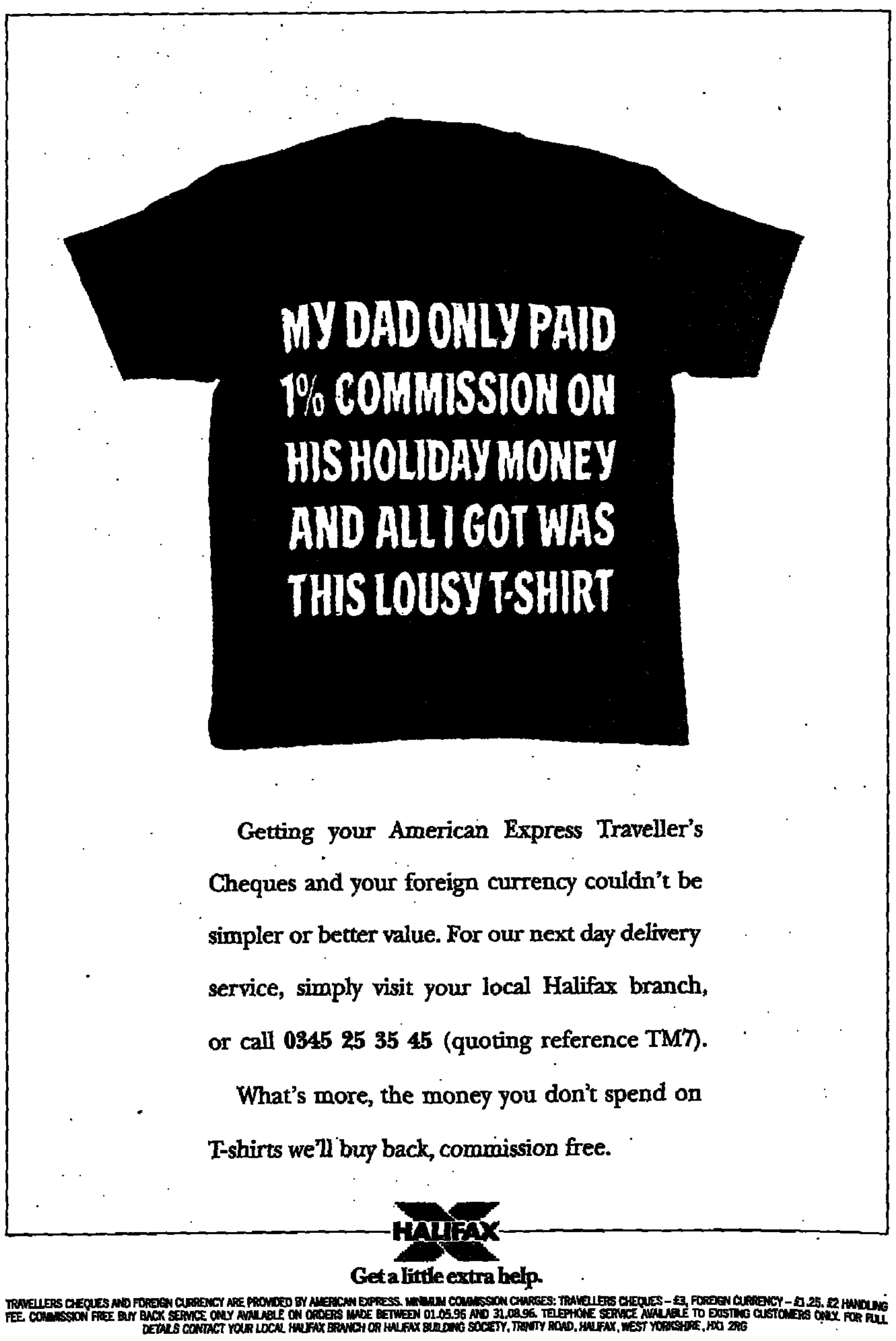
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'It was like banging my head against a brick wall. The bank kept insisting it was correct'

NatWest in £50,000 payout to clients who were overcharged

By Stephen Farrell

National
Westminster
Bank

King's Lynn Branch

A BRANCH of the National Westminster Bank apologised to business customers yesterday after overcharging them by up to £14,000 each.

Managers at the bank in King's Lynn, Norfolk, paid £50,000 in rebates and compensation to nine firms after blaming the errors on failure to follow procedures. The mistakes, involving high overdraft interest payments and cheque charges, were uncovered only when customers refused to accept bank denials and called in specialists.

One engineering firm won a £14,000 refund after it was overcharged for six years. Tom Kemp, a beef farmer, was awarded £11,242 after claiming money was wrongly taken from his account.

Mr Kemp, 59, from East Bilney, Norfolk, was first offered £3,000 in 1992 after reading about other cases of overcharging in a farming magazine. The offer was later increased but fell short of the full sum until he called in a company which specialised in recovering excess charges.

"I knew something was wrong and I was losing money — but it was like banging my head against a brick wall. The bank kept insisting it was correct, but I persevered until I got my money back," Mr Kemp said.

"It took the bank three years to admit it was wrong to the extent it was and pay up. I closed my account in disgust while I was fighting them — but the NatWest refused to give me a reference, which led to problems with me getting an account elsewhere."

Bob Whalley, 33, who runs a vehicle restoration firm in Tilney All Saints, won a £466 refund for errors dating back seven years, and is claiming a further £4,000. "I knew I was paying a lot of money in charges, but I could not put my finger on where the mistakes were," Mr Whalley said. "It took the bank 11 months to admit I was owed £500 from 1989 and I am now hopeful of getting further rebates from them."

ALBAN DONOHOE

Tom Kemp, a beef farmer, was awarded £11,000

Mark Radin, of Anglia Business Associates, the firm which identified the errors, said: "This is the worst case of multiple overcharging by just one branch that I have ever come across. It is quite possible that many other customers at the branch have been overcharged by the bank without realising it." Other rebates included £7,000 for a building materials supplier, £2,000 for a property developer, £1,500 for an insurance firm, £1,000 for a print company and £500 for another engineering firm.

National Westminster said last night that it had investigated the cases and apologised to customers. Clare Brown, a spokeswoman, said: "We are aware of past instances where business customers at our King's Lynn branch have been overcharged. This is not a national problem."

She blamed human error in incorrect marking of overdraft limits and interest rates but said tighter procedures and more detailed breakdowns of charges had since been introduced.

It pays to check your statement

By Anne Ashworth

BELIEVING that your bank is infallible can be an expensive error. Mistakes do occur. They will seldom be in your favour, as numerous businesses and individuals have discovered.

Patricia Griffiths Associates, a firm of independent banking consultants, has uncovered errors stretching back several years, amounting in some cases to as much as £84,000, easily enough to send a small business to the wall.

This type of bank error usually arises from the overcharging of overdraft interest. When you ask permission to go into the red, you will pay an authorised rate.

Considerably higher penal rates are payable for unauthorised overdrafts. Either the bank may mistakenly charge the unauthorised rate, or a rate different from the authorised one you agreed.

The differences between authorised and unauthorised rates can be seen in the Midland's tariff of charges. Its authorised rate for personal customers is 16 per cent, with a £7 monthly fee; its unauthorised rate is 24.6 per cent, with a monthly fee of £17.

Its authorised rates for business customers are negotiable. These customers pay from 2 to 6 percentage points above the base rate, which is currently 5.75 per cent. The unauthorised business overdraft rate is 26 per cent.

Patricia Griffiths says that everyone should check the overdraft interest figure on their statement. "It's easy to arrive at a rough figure of what you should be paying in interest. If you have agreed to pay 2 per cent over base for your business overdraft, you should be paying, at the current level of rates, 7.75 per cent.

"Say you have an overdraft of £10,000. Take the £10,000 and multiply it by 7.75 per cent and then divide by 12 to give a monthly amount. You should be paying £64.58 in interest each month. You should then compare this approximate figure with the bank's charge."

SATURDAY
IN THE TIMES

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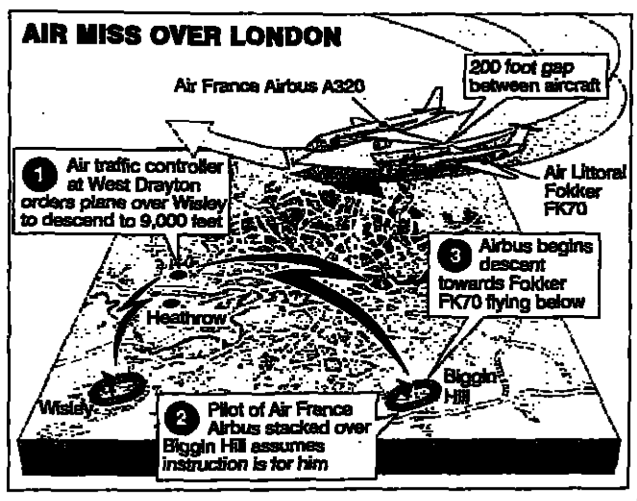
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Air France Airbus A320
200 foot gap between aircraft
1 Air traffic controller at West Drayton orders plane over Wisley to descend to 9,000 feet
Air Littoral Fokker FK70
3 Airbus begins descent towards Fokker FK70 flying below
Heathrow
Wisley
Biggin Hill
2 Pilot of Air France Airbus stacked over Biggin Hill assumes instruction is for him

Jets came within a second of crash

By Harvey Elliott, air correspodent

TWO French airliners carrying a total of more than 200 people came within 200ft and a split-second of colliding over southeast London in one of the most serious near-miss incidents recorded over Britain.

Only a last-second warning from an air traffic controller prevented an Air France Airbus A320 from smashing into an Air Littoral Fokker F70 at 9,000ft. The near miss, in May last year, was disclosed yesterday by the Civil Aviation Authority in an official Aircraft Proximity Report.

The A320, heading for Heathrow from Paris Charles de Gaulle, was circling at 10,000ft above Biggin Hill in southeast London. A thousand feet below the Fokker twin jet was also circling. The air traffic controller at West Drayton meanwhile instructed another aircraft circling at 10,000ft over Wisley, Surrey, to descend to 9,000ft. To his horror he saw the Air France jet over Biggin Hill descend directly towards the Fokker 1,000ft below.

The aircraft were so close that they merged on the radar display. The report stated: "With some urgency in his voice the controller responded immediately, 'Eight zero six. Negative. Climb flight level one zero zero, flight level 100" (10,000ft). The panel set up to investigate praised his "impressive diligence and skill".

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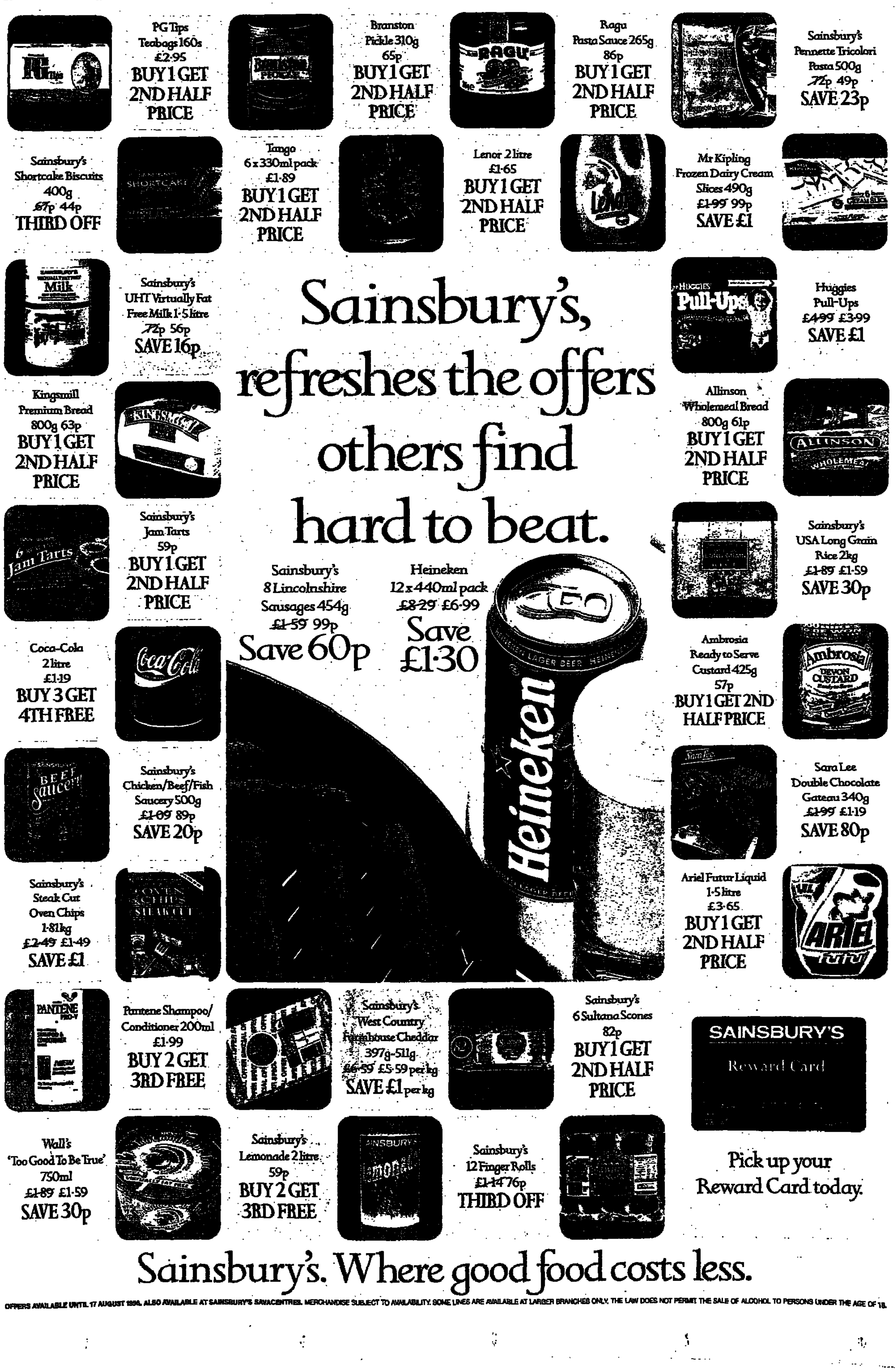
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Gummer rejects speed limit on Windermere boats

■ **Boat clubs that had feared for their survival were celebrating, but lakeland officials warned of a possible appeal against the Environment Secretary's ruling, Michael Hornsby reports**

A 10mph speed limit for powered boats on Windermere has been rejected by the Government, despite the recommendation of an inquiry which said that speedboats and water-skiing were incompatible with nearly all other recreations on the lake.

The Lake District National Park Authority and conservation groups denounced the decision, but watersports enthusiasts and commercial users of the lake hailed it as a victory for common sense and for the tourist trade.

Supporters of the speed limit say it is needed to protect residents' and visitors' quiet enjoyment of Windermere, which has seen a 60 per cent increase in boat traffic in 20 years. But John Gummer, the Environment Secretary, rejected the idea, saying it would unreasonably "deny a substantial number of users the full use of an important stretch of water over which there is a public right of navigation.

"Motorboat racing has taken place there since the 1920s and water-skiing has taken place since the early days of the sport. Windermere is one of only ten sites in the country for powerboat racing and is also unique in terms of its length for powerboat record attempts."

In reaching his decision, Mr Gummer overruled the recommendation of an independent inspector who concluded after a 13-week public inquiry in 1994 that water-skiing and speedboats were incompatible with almost all other recreational uses, such as rowing, sailing and angling.

The speed limit was proposed by the Lake District National Park Authority. John Toothill, its chief executive, said: "We are taking legal advice on the possibility of contesting Mr Gummer's decision. It is baffling how the Secretary of State can appoint an inspector and then simply ignore his advice. There are currently 5,500 motorboats registered to use the lake, about 2,000 of them high-powered speedboats, and, as things stand, we have no power to restrict their numbers or their speed, except in a limited area."

The speed limit was supported at the inquiry by the Countryside Commission, the Government's adviser on land use, the National Trust, which owns four miles of shoreline, and Friends of the Lake District, representing residents.

Roger Clarke, the Countryside Commission's director of policy, said: "We are very disappointed. National parks are not the place for noisy sports. Powerboats on Windermere bring pleasure to a minority, but are an increasing source of aggravation for the majority."

However, champagne was broken open after news of the decision reached the 227-member Windermere Motorboat Racing Club, near Bowness. Chris Gabbott, the manager, said: "If the speed limit had been imposed we would have had to close the club, which was founded in 1926. We race on only about 12 Saturdays in the year and many of our boats are fitted with silencers to reduce noise."

Chris Pretty, manager of Low Wood Water Sports Centre, near Ambleside, said: "We are delighted by the Environment Secretary's decision. About 80 per cent of our income comes from water-skiing and we could not have survived without it."

Opponents of the speed limit, including the Royal Yachting Association and the Sports Council, said that ways of managing the lake could be found to satisfy everyone. Len Hayton, a solicitor who has lived in the area all his life and represented commercial users of Windermere at the inquiry, said: "A blanket speed ban would be totally unfair. Regulation is needed, but this could be done by zoning certain areas of the lake for speedboating and requiring boat users to pass a test of competency."

Anti-car mob blocks streets and invades Tube office

By Jonathan Prynn

A protester is led away. Nine people were arrested

NINE anti-car protesters were arrested yesterday when a mob forced its way into the office of the head of London Underground after a demonstration in Trafalgar Square.

The protesters overpowered security guards at the company's headquarters at St James's Park Underground station, injuring one, and rushed up seven floors of stairs to the office of Peter Ford, its chairman, where they unfurled banners and chanted slogans.

Mr Ford said: "A deputation of uninvited visitors burst into the office and some started throwing paper around. They looked as if they were intent on causing mayhem. I said: 'Look — if you are going to do this, let's establish a few ground rules.' One of them locked the door, and Mr Ford asked him to unlock it.

"Their main object seemed to be to display their banners outside the building and I was quite worried because the way some of them were carrying on it looked as they might fall out of the window." The protesters were removed by police after about 40 minutes.

The demonstration, in support of Tube drivers during the seventh one-day Tube strike, brought gridlock to much of central London yesterday morning as the protesters cycled at walking pace down some of the capital's busiest streets. Four groups of protesters converged on Trafalgar Square and cycled round, before moving on to Whitehall and Parliament Square, stopping briefly outside Downing Street.

There were angry exchanges between the protesters and motorists who tried to break through the wall of bicycles. The protesters said they were highlighting the need for more investment in public transport and trying to persuade more people to travel to work by bicycle.

Niall Ferguson, page 16

ADRIAN SHERRATT

The cyclists' protest during yesterday's strike on the Underground brought much of central London to a halt

Minister's accusers will not face perjury charge

By Shirley English

Macleod: cleared by trial

FOUR women who made false allegations that a minister in the Free Church of Scotland sexually assaulted them will not be prosecuted for perjury, the Crown Office said yesterday.

The decision brings to a close another episode in the case of Professor Donald Macleod, 55, of Edinburgh, who was cleared in June of five charges of indecent assault against the women. It also means that fellow Free Church ministers accused of orchestrating a smear campaign against the professor will not be investigated.

The women had alleged that Professor Macleod kissed and touched them on separate occasions between 1985 and 1991. One flew from Tasmania to testify. But at the end of the trial, Sheriff Horsburgh accused the women of lying and said that Professor Macleod had been the victim of a ten-year conspiracy led by his enemies within the Free Church. The conspirators were said to be hardliners who objected to Professor Macleod's modernising influence. The Sheriff's remarks led to the Crown investigation into possible perjury and a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice.

But in a statement yesterday the Crown Office said: "After consideration of a report by the Procurator Fiscal at Edinburgh into the trial of Professor Donald Macleod, Crown counsel have concluded that no further investigations are warranted and that criminal proceedings against the witnesses would not be justified."

A source said the decision did not reflect on the outcome of the trial in any way. As far as the Crown was concerned, the matter was now closed.

Professor Macleod was away on holiday and unavailable for comment yesterday.

The father of one of the women accusers said he was relieved by the decision "as far as it goes" and said he was standing by his daughter.

The announcement was also welcomed by ministers accused of orchestrating a campaign against Professor Macleod. They insisted there had never been any conspiracy and repeated complaints that their evidence had not been called during the trial.

Sport-loving teenager left his own memorial

By Kate Alderson

A BOY dying of cancer who wanted to be remembered by the speedway team he idolised spent his last months working to buy his own memorial trophy.

Karl Friar, 16, from Tweedmouth, Northumberland, was told in June that he had no hope of recovery, despite having chemotherapy. A passionate supporter of the Berwick Bandits, he took a part-time job in a butcher's shop to raise money to buy a silver cup.

The teenager, who lived with his divorced mother, worked every afternoon in the shop in in Tweedmouth, saving all of the £5 he earned each day. He continued to go to the Berwick race track every weekend and tried to keep the news of his terminal condition from his friends there.

Karl died on Saturday, and yesterday members of the team, many of whom had not realised how ill he was, attended his funeral.

Mike Hope, 47, owner and promoter of the Berwick Bandits, was one of the pallbearers. "We knew Karl was ill but no one ever realised he had cancer, let alone that he was dying. The fact that he was saving up all this time for a trophy came as a shock to us all. It's typical of Karl, he was thinking about us to the last."

The teenager's ambition to leave a memorial was realised, and speedway teams in the North of England will now compete annually for the Karl Friar Trophy.

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Chester invites debate over strange elliptical building and its role as a base for invasion of Ireland

Port city that leaves scholars with two unsolved questions

REPORTS BY ALAN HAMILTON

DEVA, the Roman Chester, was the largest fort in the country. It covered 60 acres when all the others were 50 acres or less, boasted the largest amphitheatre and contained a large, mysterious elliptical building the like of which has been found nowhere else in the empire. Clearly, something pretty important was going on here.

Founded in AD79, Chester was a frontier post from which to push forward the boundaries of empire among the savage tribes of North Wales and the equally recalcitrant Brigantes to the north and east. Its large harbour on the River Dee and its central location made it a candidate for provincial capital of Britain, until London's advantage of being much nearer the Continent won the day.

But could Chester also have been the springboard for that enduring Roman controversy, an invasion of Ireland? Most scholars agree that no such invasion took place, but they admit the possibility that successive governors of Britain may well have thought about it, and even made preparations for a D-Day-style landing. Chester would have been the natural place to assemble and victual a fleet, to gather the invasion troops and from which to sally forth

along the relative shelter of the North Wales coast. However, imperial strategy changed and the legions found themselves trying to subdue the Picts instead. With most of its regular troops away crossing swords with Highlanders, or building Hadrian's Wall, much of Chester was left deserted, rubbish piling up in its streets and empty houses, until it enjoyed a 2nd-century revival when Rome had finally given up trying to bring Caledonia to heel.

Chester was always a fort rather than a civilian town, and the surviving massive medieval walls and gridiron street plan closely follow its 2,000-year-old origins. Do not, however, be misled by the word fort. Dr Peter Carrington, senior archaeologist with Chester City Council, says: "You cannot compare a legionary fort with a modern army barracks, which are strictly utilitarian. A fort was more than that. It was an advertisement for the Roman way of life, with its Mediterranean architecture, bath-houses and entertainments. The message to the natives was: 'Come in, have a look, and be impressed". '

The strange elliptical building may have had something to do with that. It baffled the archaeologists who uncovered it during construction of the Forum shopping precinct in the 1960s, under whose foundations it is now hopelessly lost. Begun in AD 79 at the founding of Chester, but never completed, it consisted of 12 wedge-shaped rooms around a courtyard. Current thinking speculates that it may have been a quasi-religious shrine to the glory of Rome and its emperors, or an *imago mundi*, a kind of early Great Exhibition celebrating the various regions of the Roman Empire or the known world.

MARTIN BEDDALL

Well-preserved Roman tombstones in the Grosvenor Museum. They reflect Chester's status as a cosmopolitan port and provincial capital

As for the amphitheatre, which lies half-excavated in the city centre, it too probably played its part in impressing the natives, with Roman equivalents of the Royal Tournament and the Edinburgh Tattoo. Senior imperial officials were regular visitors to Chester and they liked to put on a show. Plans to unearth the other half of the amphitheatre were floated in the 1980s but came to nothing, and the site remains bisected by an ugly concrete wall.

Being a port, Roman Chester was undoubtedly a cosmopolitan place, as the remarkably well-preserved gravestones displayed in the city's Grosvenor Museum testify. One is of a Sarmatian horseman from what is now Hungary, and two more are in Greek: the Greeks were the intellectual smart set of the Roman Empire, often practising as doctors. Perhaps the saddest tombstone is a mere fragment, with the deceased's name missing, and the only legible inscription *Naufragio Perit*: He died in a shipwreck.

Tomorrow: Colchester and Bath

The hypocaust that heated the garrison bath-house

Bath-house lies buried under Spud-U-Like

CHESTER's impressively visible city walls are almost entirely medieval, although they partially follow the course of the Roman originals. The best Roman fragment, still standing to 15ft, can be seen by standing on the canal bridge just outside Northgate.

The amphitheatre is unmistakable, forcing the modern main road into a long sweeping curve to avoid it. Alongside, in Souters Lane, is the Roman Garden, filled with bits of Roman columns and other architectural fragments too big for museums. It is a perfect spot for relaxation. Across the street are the substantial foundations of the angle-tower that guarded a corner of the fort's walls.

Most of Roman Chester lies hidden beneath the modern city, but it occasionally peeps through in basements. In the unlikely setting of the Spud-U-Like shop at 39 Bridge Street is a large and well-preserved section of a hypocaust which heated the garrison bath-house. In Jigsaw, a clothes shop at 23 Northgate Street, you can see column bases and shafts from the fort's headquarters building. Miss Selfridge at 12 Northgate Street has another fragment of hypocaust.

Cross the Dee at the end of Lower Bridge Street and turn immediately right into Edgar's Field to see the badly weathered Shrine of Minerva, carved into the stone of what was the principal Roman sandstone quarry in the area.

Chester's Grosvenor Museum (Mon-Sat 10.30-5, Sun 2-5, admission free) has a good collection of Roman gravestones and funerary monuments, many broken but their inscriptions still remarkably clear from having been used as facing stones in the medieval city walls, carved side inwards. From the museum, a short walk across the Dee leads to the racecourse, which in Roman times was the centre of an important port. Fragments of the original quay are visible as you descend from the road.

Dewa Roman Experience, Pierpoint Lane, off Bridge Street, is a "theme" museum alongside a genuine fragment of city wall (open daily, 9-5.30).

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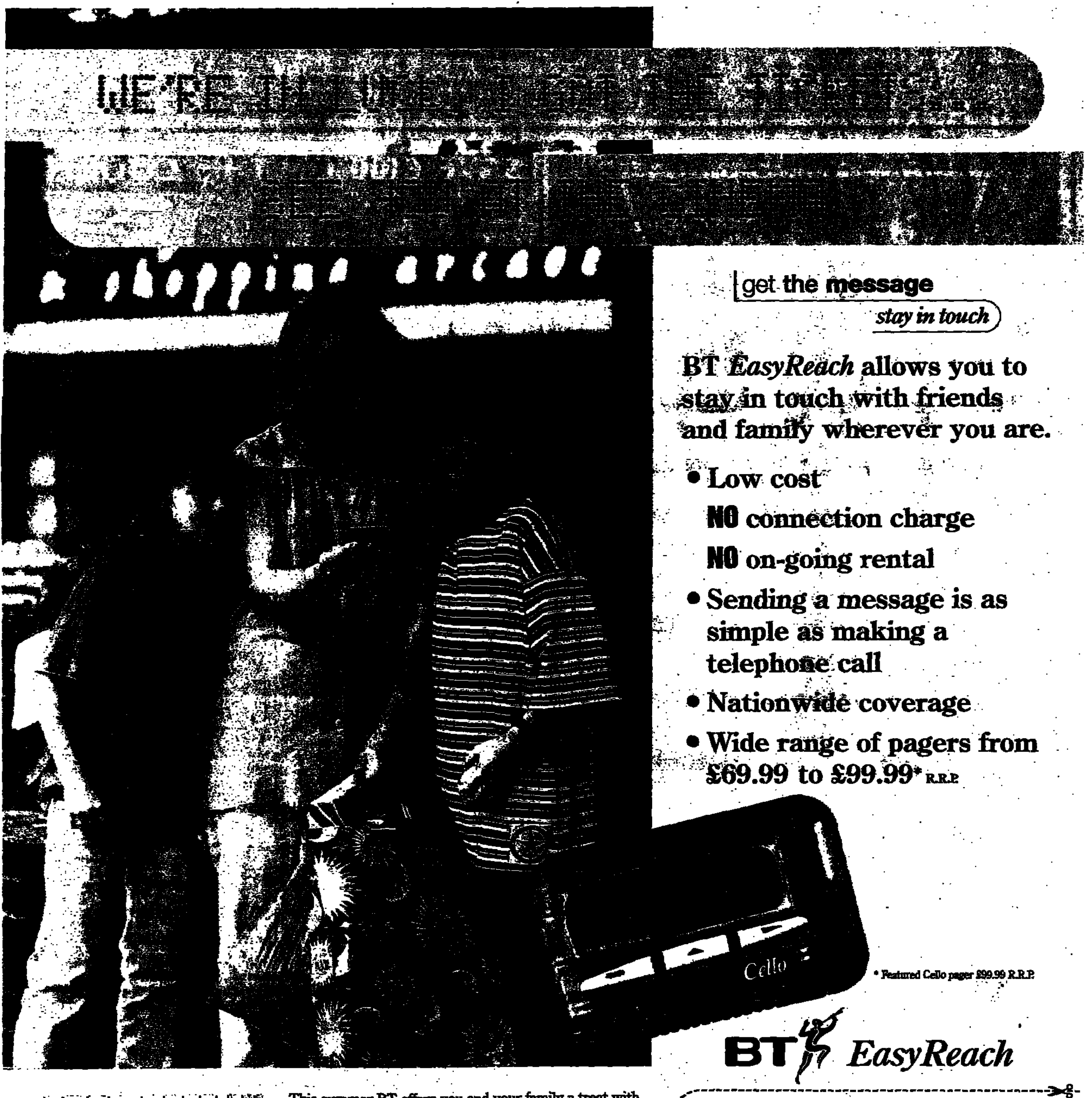

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Suharto bid to keep big business in the family

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS IN JAKARTA

PRESIDENT SUHARTO'S family fortune is the biggest mystery in Indonesia, although everyone knows it is vast. Some of his six children are among the world's wealthiest tycoons and the family's political, economic, social and even military power in the world's fourth most populous country is practically beyond measure.

There are two subjects the President never discusses publicly: the succession and family business. His refusal to name a successor, or even to establish machinery to choose one, makes the nation jittery, while questions about his family's privileged business opportunities fuel criticism of nepotism. The family's wealth may rival that of the Sultan of Brunei, the world's richest person.

A significant slice of Indonesia's fast-growing "tiger" economy is controlled by his children, whose interests range from car-making to petrochemical plants, road toll companies and satellite communications. The President signed a decree granting his youngest son, "Tommy" Hutomo Mandala Putra, exclusive tax and tariff concessions to develop a national car, undercutting competitors who must pay swingeing import duties. His vehicle will sell at about half the price of competing vehicles.

The family's interests are believed to range far beyond the known companies into a range of subsidiary interests not publicly linked to the Suhartos. Substantial political power also rests with the children. The eldest daughter, Tutut Siti Hadijanti Rukmana, 47, and the second son, Bambang Trihattmodjo, hold senior posts in Golkar, the government party, one of only three groups that are allowed to contest elections.

President Suharto, 75, a former general, retains good relations with the Army and is said to bridge the generation gap between him and commanders through his son-in-law, Brigadier General Prabowo Subianto, married to the second Suharto daughter.

Hutomo Mandala Putra, son of President Suharto, who has been given tax and tariff concessions to develop a national car

Mrs Tutut's extensive business interests include control of a company, listed on the stock market in 1994, that collects revenues from Java's main toll roads. She has been tipped as a possible presidential successor, but some analysts believe that President Suharto's priority is not the establishment of a political dynasty but the securing of his family's business interests when he is not around to promote or protect them.

That means trying to ensure that the family is protected from retroactive vindictiveness: the children's business privileges have caused resentment among business rivals and Japan has been threatening legal action against the tax and duty concessions that will make "Tommy's" national car, production of which is being set up in co-operation with a South Korean firm, so cheap. There are two Suharto cars: Bambang has also developed one in co-operation with another South Korean company, but without the tax and duty advantages. The brothers are thus business rivals.

Bambang owns a petrochemical plant and earlier this year was reported to be negotiating for a £645 million contract with the state oil company, Pertamina, to build a national gas extraction plant. A grandson has been given the right to raise a levy on beer.

This year the President defended his wife, Siti (also known as Tien), who has since died, against rumours that she took bribes from development projects. With his wife sitting beside him, he said that she had initiated several big projects, but that did not mean she had the money for them. "It is not her own money. She is only calling on others who agree with her ideas and are willing."

Assad dismisses Netanyahu offer to remove troops

FROM ROSS DUNN IN JERUSALEM

PRESIDENT ASSAD of Syria yesterday dismissed publicly an initial attempt by Israel's right-wing Government to make peace with his country.

Mr Assad said he would never agree to the offer made by Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, to withdraw Israeli troops from southern Lebanon as a precursor to peace with Damascus.

The Syrian leader said those who promoted the "Lebanon first" policy were not interested in real peace. "Syria and Lebanon first — at the same time, in the same steps." Mr Assad told a news conference after meeting President Mubarak of Egypt in Alexandria. Mr Netanyahu said that Israeli troops would withdraw from southern Lebanon if Hezbollah guerrillas were disarmed and the security of northern Israel were guaranteed. The offer was made to Syria because it is the main power-broker in Lebanon, where it has more than 30,000 troops.

Mr Assad seemed angry, however, that the Israeli offer avoided confronting the issue of giving up the Golan Heights, captured from Syria in 1967. Damascus wants this area to be returned as a precondition of full peace with Israel. The Syrian leader said: "No one who read the invitation sent by Netanyahu gets the feeling that it is the road to peace and that those who wrote it are committed to peace."

Peace talks between Syria and Israel began in 1991 but have been stalled for some time over the Golan issue. Relations between the two countries deteriorated after Mr Netanyahu's election in May and his public rejection of the idea of giving up more land in return for peace. "We are committed to the peace process, based on United Nations resolutions, and the principle of land for peace and all obligations and agreements decided during the past five years," Mr Assad said. "On these bases, we are prepared to resume peace negotiations."

Yassir Arafat, the President of the Palestinian Authority, yesterday held talks with King Husain of Jordan regarding the Israeli Government. The meeting followed Mr Arafat's criticism of Mr Netanyahu's decision to lift a freeze on Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, home to more than two million Palestinians.

The two men were due to discuss the settlement issue and Mr Arafat's concerns about Jordan's ambitions for the West Bank, which it ruled from 1950 to 1967.

Bomb denial by woman

Jerusalem: British officials questioned Huda Fudeh, 30, an Israeli-Arab, in a Tel Aviv court about two bomb attacks in 1994 against Jewish targets in London. She denied any involvement with the attacks. *(Reuter)*

Smugglers pack red-light women for green channel

FROM ROBERT WHYMANT IN TOKYO

JAPANESE customs officials are intensifying inspections of tourists returning from Thailand after discovering that dozens of young Thai women were entering the country packed into passengers' hand luggage.

Officers at Tokyo and Osaka airports have so far retrieved four young Thai women from bags in random checks in the "nothing to declare" lanes.

Police believe that as many as 40 have entered Japan in luggage in recent months, and suspect that the operation is the work of an international syndicate.

Osaka police yesterday placed Toshiro Oyama, a 42-year-old Japanese man who lives in Thailand, on an international wanted list, on suspicion of smuggling Thai women into Japan. An alleged accomplice, Kazumi Kobayashi, 35, a clothing salesman, was caught at Osaka airport in June. A customs inspector who ordered him to open his bag (24ins long, 11ins wide and 29ins high) found a 20-year-old Thai woman folded up inside. The woman, who was carrying a false passport, had hoped to find illegal employment in Japan's entertainment industry.

Mr Kobayashi confessed to carrying about 40 Thai women into Japan, each of whom paid about four million yen (£27,000) for the chance of finding a job in a bar or massage parlour.

Police say that the Thai women are boarding flights in Bangkok with a carrier, who packs them into bags in airport lavatories between the arrivals gate and passport inspection.

Pimps and perverts, page 15

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Germany's former communists discover the ills of capitalism

When the Berlin Wall came down, East Germans looked forward to a cleaner, healthier future. But, **Roger Boyes** reports, cancers, allergies and respiratory disease are on the increase

DOES capitalism make you ill? New medical research shows that *former East Germans* have become sicker since the collapse of communist rule and are picking up physical and mental diseases common to the West.

The popular assumption that East Germans would become healthier after the heavily polluted former communist state was cleaned up has been dashed by researchers *in Erfurt* and Hamburg. There has been a rapid increase in asthma, hayfever, res*piratory diseases* and serious allergies. Some cancers — especially those of the breast and colon — have increased in the east, as have a range of stress-related psychological disorders such as anorexia and clinical depression. Since unification, East Germans have been suffering as never before from haemorrhoids.

Improved diagnosis and better statistics may have boosted the sickness *figures but* researchers agree that this is only a partial explanation. After the collapse of the Berlin Wall, western researchers hurried to the east and set up monitoring teams which took blood samples from young children and recorded the strength of their lungs.

The first findings in 1992 were surprising: despite dirtier water, *polluted air and soil* that was often poisoned by heavy fertilisers, East German children were more robust than *their* Western counterparts. Now, four years later, the Research Centre for Environment and Health has found that childhood allergies have risen by between 20 and 50 per cent.

Scientists have been proposing various explanations. One possibility *is that the communist kinder*garten system crammed large numbers of children together while *their mothers went to work.* Infection spread quickly and this helped to build up the immune *systems of the children.* Now kindergartens and crèches are disappearing. The women of eastern Germany were *the first to join* the unemployment queue and find that the cost of childcare takes away most of what they can earn in part-time work. *Thanks in part to* advertising campaigns by Western cigarette companies, children in the east have started to smoke at a much earlier age: lung tests on east German 11 to 13-year-olds clearly show a deterioration in health.

Improvements in the standard of living have also had an impact on health. Draughty wooden window frames have been replaced by airtight plastic ones; there are new carpets on the floors, and dust-gathering video recorders on the shelves. "Optimal conditions for the dust mite," says Dr Joachim Herbst.

The most obvious new element in the equation is stress. Unemployment *and* competitive pressures have led *to* big increases in psychosomatic illnesses. The Burg Clinic in Thuringia has become one of many eastern hospitals to note the sharp rise in chronic head and back pain, sleep disturbance and psychosis. Reinhard Plass*mann, a psychiatrist who practises* in East and West Germany, believes that some forms of depres*sion have become four times more* common in the east. "Patients say that they can no longer come to grips with life, *and that they* would like to retire immediately or even die."

Some disorders, *such as anorex*ia, were barely acknowledged in communist times. Other compul*sive illnesses — such as gambling* addiction — can be directly traced to the new capitalism because amusement arcades (unknown under the communists) *now* feature in every city centre. Aids has also hit the East.

It is not all bad news, however. Blood pressure is improving and life expectancy has significantly increased. Providing that the East German male does not get knocked down by a BMW, he can expect to live to about 73. Under *the communists his life expectancy* would have been three years shorter. A similar trend can be observed *in the* fast-reforming states of Central Europe.

Body and Mind, page 14

Russians humbled as Chechen rebels storm into Grozny

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

CHECHEN rebel fighters were poised to capture the centre of Grozny, the besieged Chechen capital, yesterday as Russian troops were cut off by *guerrillas* or driven out of the city in fierce street fighting.

In one of the most humiliat*ing chapters* of Russia's disastrous 20-month campaign in the breakaway Caucasus re*public*, Chechen separatists continued to throw the authorities on the defensive in *the* second day of a lightning assault.

According to the Interfax *news* agency, the *Russian* casualty toll in 48 hours of fighting climbed to 50 troops dead and 200 wounded. No figures were available for the guerrillas, although they said that *22 civilians* had died in a retaliatory Russian airstrike on a rebel-held village.

Although heavy fighting made it difficult to obtain an accurate picture, it was clear from local reports that most of central Grozny was in rebel hands as well as the town of Argun, ten miles east, where rebels beat back a Russian armoured column.

Much of the focus yesterday was centered on government buildings in central Grozny, *where a group of troops*, Russian journalists and some civilians faced imminent capture.

"The situation is critical," said Akmal Saidov, a Russian government representative in Chechenia. "The coming night may be the last in the life of those who are defending the centre."

Although witnesses reported that an armoured relief *column* had reached the city's outskirts, the troops either did not want, or had not received, *orders* to launch a *counter*-attack.

The rebels made little secret *of their aim to embarrass* President Yeltsin ahead of his swearing-in ceremony tomorrow. "We agreed *to meet* Yeltsin half way during the (presidential) elections," said a fighter quoted by *Izvestia*. "We believed him when he said he would stop the war. We not only ceased fighting in our territory, but even allowed the elections to be held.

"But now it turns out Yeltsin has fooled everyone. As soon as he won the elections he immediately forgot … Now we want to spoil his celebrations and to remind all his guests that the war in Chechenia is continuing and that Chechenia will never give in to force."

Tim Guldimann, the Grozny representative for the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe, confirmed that while the fighting continued there was little hope of restarting any peace initiative.

"There is absolutely no chance of even trying to start any *dialogue* while this fighting is going on in the city," he told *The Times* from his offices in central Grozny. "For the second day now it has been sporadic but fierce. We are trapped in our building. There is nothing we can do until the Chechen fighters withdraw."

The impact of the fighting, and in particular the fresh Russian casualties, does threaten to overshadow President Yeltsin's inauguration, which the ailing leader had *hoped would mark the crown*ing success of his political career.

However, the upbeat mood after his re-election victory in July has evaporated and given *way to growing criticism* among some of his supporters over his incompetent handling *of the latest Chechen crisis.*

The liberal Russian press, which had whole-heartedly backed President Yeltsin *during* his campaign, turned on him yesterday, accusing the *Kremlin* of *confused* leadership and blaming it in part for the rebel attack.

Leading article, page 17

Basayev: led Chechens' lightning attack on city

Kremlin repeating errors of the tsars

BY THOMAS DE WAAL

ACCOUNTS of the Caucasian wars, Russia's long imperial struggle with the mountainous tribes of the Caucasus in the 19th century, contrast the slow and ponderous Russian forces, strong only in weight of numbers, with the nimble ways of the daredevil "mountaineers".

The speed and efficiency of yesterday's raid on Grozny by the Chechen rebels shows up yet again the illusion of Moscow's claim to be in control of Chechenia 18 months after President Yeltsin chose to use force to bring the rebellious region back into line. The guerrillas' lightning attack looks back to a long *tradition* of horseback raids in which the Chechens terrorised the Cossack settlements and forts in the plains, using *surprise* to combat the Russians' *numerical superiority.*

In their turn, the Russians seem to have learnt nothing since the days of General Aleksei Yermolov in the 1820s; he believed his mission was to fight a whole population, but succeeded only in antagonising the entire Chechen people. Since Mr Yeltsin was re-elected, the Russians have bombed Chechen villages with no regard for civilian suffering. The effect has been only to encourage neutral villagers to join the cause.

The guerrillas *will not hope* to win permanent control of Grozny. The offensive is de*signed to illustrate that they* cannot be beaten militarily and that the Russians must *negotiate seriously if they* want a solution. The separatists are most likely to disappear *into the hills as soon as serious reinforcements* arrive, and wait for the Russians to *decide that it is time to start* talking about peace.

Greg Willis, above, clings to the tail of the 18ft oarfish. Below, he poses with the creature that later thrashed itself to death on rocks

Rare catch rises from the deep

FROM GILES WHITTELL IN LOS ANGELES

ON THE day earthlings learnt of life on Mars, Californians were regaled yesterday by "the ultimate fish story" — about an 18ft oarfish whose kind has rarely been seen alive.

Dr William Shachtman, an eye surgeon from Colorado, was snorkelling in a lagoon off the Baja California peninsula in northern Mexico last month when his wife's screams from the deck of their chartered boat made him to turn round.

Breaking the surface and heading straight for him was a silver, snake-like creature three times the length of a man and more than 4ft in circumference. "He swam right past me at arm's length," Dr Shachtman said yesterday. "First there was a huge, saucer-shaped eye with a black pupil, then this beautiful red crest went up in display along his back. I was stunned. If I could have walked on water I would have done so at that point."

Satisfied the beast was no shark, the boat's captain, Greg Willis, joined Dr Shachtman in the water and managed to cling briefly to its dorsal fin before being "flicked off like a fly off a horse's back". He is probably the only human ever to have been towed by an oarfish.

Documented sightings of *Regalecus glesne*, which reach *30ft, can* be counted on two hands. A 56ft serpent-like fish washed on to a Scottish beach in 1808 is now thought to have been an oarfish. Three more have been seen off Baja California in recent years, all dead.

Thought to spend most of their lives at depths of 1,000ft to 3,000ft, oarfish have only one compelling reason to surface — to die. The one that surprised Dr Shachtman was bleeding from its gills and appeared to have been attacked by a shark or sea lion, Mr Willis said. It beached itself on rocks and thrashed itself to death.

A videotape of *its last* moments is being studied by scientists at the Scripps *Oceanographic Institute in* San Diego.

Summit revives Bosnia fears

BY EVE-ANN PRENTICE
DIPLOMATIC CORRESPONDENT

THE leaders of Serbia and *Croatia — the two men most* widely blamed for starting the wars in the former Yugoslavia — yesterday *met for a summit* hailed as a leap forward in the normalisation of their rela*tions, but seen by many* Western diplomats as a sinister manoeuvre to finalise the par*tition of Bosnia.*

Presidents Milosevic of Serbia and Tudjman of Croatia announced that their countries would establish diplo*matic* relations at the end of the month. The real motive for the meeting, however, was believed to have been to pick *over the spoils of the Balkan* conflict. The meeting, at Vouliagmeni, a seaside resort *south of Athens*, marked the first official summit between the two since the break-up of *the former Yugoslavia in 1991.*

Mr Milosevic and Dr Tudjman are believed to have *held a summit at Tito's old* Karadjordjevo hunting lodge in March 1991, weeks before the conflict began, when they were alleged to have discussed the break-up of Yugoslavia *and the division* of Bosnia between their two states. Belgrade and Zagreb have in the past suggested carving up Bosnia, and both are suspected by the Muslim-led Bosnian *Government of planning the partition of the country* into Serbian and Croatian zones if, *as* many fear, the Bosnian elections next month end in chaos.

"*It is very, very important* that the two leaders have chosen to have this high-*profile meeting,*" *said a senior* diplomatic source yesterday. "The main subject was to tie *up the loose pieces and proba*bly to agree that the Muslim-Croat federation would not be allowed to succeed."

Meanwhile, a party of 36 people from Barcelona yester*day became the first tourists to* visit Sarajevo since April 1992.

Planters offered cash to stop growing coca

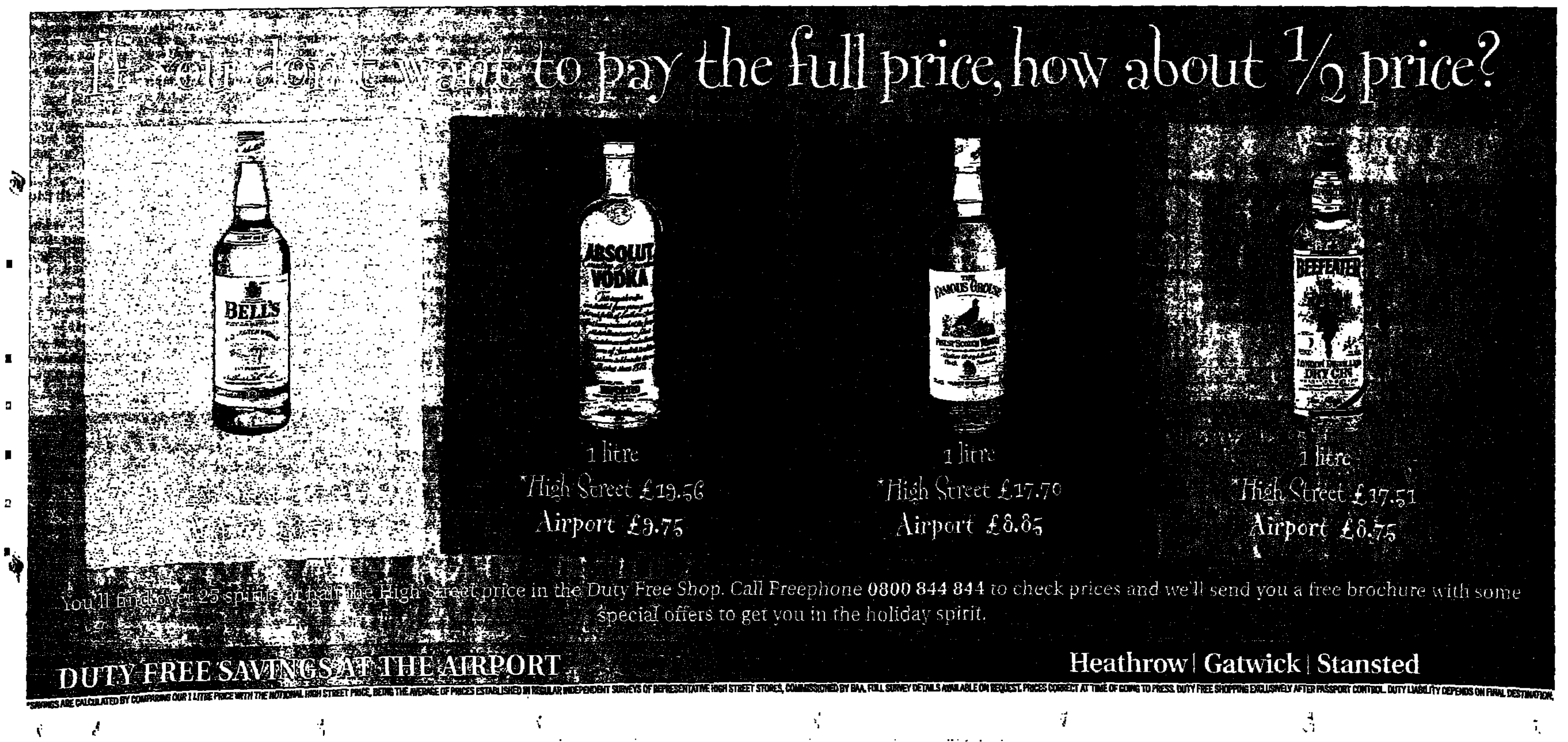
BY GABRIELLA GAMINI, SOUTH AMERICA CORRESPONDENT

THE Colombian Government yesterday offered to pay compensation to tens of thousands *of coca leaf planters if they* burn the fields on which they grow the crop used to make *cocaine and opt for food* production instead.

The offer is seen as an *attempt to curb violent pro*tests that have rocked the coca-growing regions of Putumayo, Guavire and Caqueta this week. More than ten people *have been killed* in clashes with security forces.

More than 200,000 coca growers have gathered in the towns of the jungle areas where most of Colombia's *cocaine is produced, demand*ing an end to a crop eradication plan launched by *President Samper.*

The growers say coca is the only crop that gives them *enough income to feed their* families. Dozens of helicopters donated by the United States have been used to *spray the plantations* with chemicals, but the producers say that their food crops have also been destroyed.



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US anti-terror moves unite friends and foes

By Michael Binyon, diplomatic editor

AMERICA'S heavy-handed attempt to impose worldwide sanctions on countries trading with Iran and Libya yesterday ran into a storm of foreign criticism, uniting Washington's closest allies with radical opponents of America.

The D'Amato Bill has succeeded in antagonising even governments normally keen to back Washington and committed to the international fight against terrorism, such as Britain, France, Germany and Japan. Their criticism has deeply embarrassed President Clinton and been used as evidence by Iran to insist that such sanctions will fail.

President Chirac yesterday threatened America with reprisals if French firms are penalised for trading with Iran or Libya, and is now attempting to rally European opposition. Leon Brittan, the EU Trade Commissioner, described the legislation as unacceptable, and said it represented "a clear violation of the principle of extra-territoriality". He told the Italian newspaper *La Stampa* the law was a threat to the European economic system.

The British Government has also voiced its concern and called for a concerted response by the law's opponents — though officials have been careful to moderate the language in which they have criticised the Clinton Administration. More radical foes of American policy have had no such qualms. China urged Washington to hold talks with Libya and Iran, and said the law was not consistent with international norms.

Russia, which has little investment in Libya but is seeking to expand its trade with Iran especially on nuclear co-operation, was equally outspoken.

"We need co-ordinated practical measures to improve wide anti-terrorist co-operation based on international law, but not unilateral steps contradicting the law," said a Russian Foreign Ministry spokesman. Libya's official news agency, Jamahariya, said that the sanctions would backfire on the United States and called them an excessive "demonstration of hatred and selfishness".

The Iranians were gloating at the confusion. Gholamreza Aghazadeh, the Oil Minister, said the law was doomed to failure. He said that if a precedent were established, giving a state the right to approve legislation against other nations, there would be international chaos.

The vehemence of the opposition from America's leading allies cannot have been a surprise to Washington. Britain has consistently opposed any attempt by Washington to impose laws affecting British companies or American subsidiaries in Britain. John Major and other G7 leaders reiterated their opposition to this at the Lyons summit in June, and embassies in Washington have been busy lobbying Congress in an attempt to head off the D'Amato Bill.

Some of the toughest criticism has come from Asia. Japan, whose own trade relations with Washington have been marked by acrimony and threats of sanctions and trade wars, was unusually outspoken. Hiroshi Hashimoto, the Foreign Ministry spokesman, said it was "lamentable" that the United States imposed extra-territorial legislation. This could go against a World Trade Organisation agreement. He said Japan would continue to urge the US to reconsider the law and would decide what action to take in the light of how it was applied.

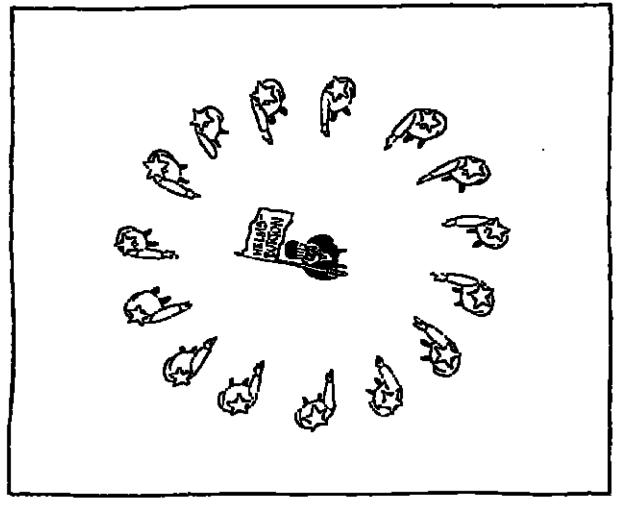
In Australia, Tim Fischer, the Deputy Prime Minister and Trade Minister, said the country was opposed to any source of terrorism. But it believed the American law was wrong in principle and its practical effect.

Criticism also came from Brazil and the Gulf Arab states, some of which have openly accused Iran of promoting terrorism in their countries.

Some of the allied opposition will be particularly wounding, even from countries that normally give Washington a rough ride. Donning a mantle once worn by his mentor, General de Gaulle, President Chirac used the final French Cabinet meeting before the summer holidays to place himself in the front line of the row with Washington.

"If it became apparent that French firms were affected, France would have to take immediate reprisals," he declared. "France and Europe should give themselves appropriate legislation, so that they can treat these questions on an equal footing with our American partner."

CARTOONISTS & WRITERS SYNDICATE



America isolated in trying to punish trade with Cuba, as portrayed by Arcadio in Costa Rica's *Tico Times*

Offer to Europe on loopholes

From Tom Rhodes in Washington

AMERICA offered an olive branch to its European allies yesterday if they entered a cooperative effort to isolate what the US State Department refers to as the two state sponsors of terrorism.

The Clinton Administration said that European companies could receive certain relief from a new law, signed by the President earlier this week, which punishes foreign firms investing in the energy sector of Iran or Libya. Sanctions will affect any company that invests an annual $40 million (£26 million) or more in oil or gas projects but, as Britain and other countries continued to put strong pressure on Washington, the White House said that certain clauses in the Act allowed the Administration to waive sanctions if allied governments or businesses had a change of heart.

"We have a long-standing policy of attempting to work with our allies to isolate the two regimes in question and that is what we hope to do now," a White House official said.

The Administration hopes that the European Union will not take its protest to the World Trade Organisation, but was confident of victory should that take place.

Under the new law, the President has the authority to waive sanctions on the ground of national interest, can delay their imposition for two successive 90-day periods and suspend sanctions after they have been working for a year.

Kennedy book mars image of virtuous bride

From Quentin Letts in New York

Jacqueline Bouvier at Newport, Rhode Island, where she was 1947 debutante of the year

AMERICA'S "royal" family, the Kennedys, had a taste yesterday of the treatment normally reserved for the House of Windsor.

Lurid details of the personal lives of the late Jacqueline and John Kennedy were published, from descriptions of where the young Jackie Bouvier first made love (in a creaking, ascending Paris lift) to the sexual disease that afflicted Kennedy through much of his adult life.

The claims, made in a new book, were given an extensive run in *Vanity Fair* magazine. They included descriptions of snobbery and underhand social plotting at the Bouvier-Kennedy wedding in 1953, of Kennedy confessing to his fiancée that he was a philanderer, and the disclosure that many of the Bouvier family and their friends referred to the Kennedys, who were of Irish descent, as "Micks".

The claims were made by Edward Klein, author of *All Too Human: the Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy.* He alleges that Jackie Bouvier was physically abused by her mother, who also sabotaged her courtship with a bibulous writer called John Phillips Marquand — the man in that Paris lift.

The way Klein describes the meeting of John Kennedy and Jackie Bouvier at a Washington dinner party, their union appears to have been the result of adroit social manoeuvering by two ambitious families. Love was a secondary concern, even for the bride and groom.

An America which only months ago demonstrated its enduring affection for "Jackie O", when some of the former First Lady's effects were auctioned for $35 million (almost £23 million), was presented with the claim that the future President Kennedy demanded that his bride should not be an "experienced voyager" in the sexual sense. Americans often express horror that Buckingham Palace made certain inquiries about Lady Diana Spencer's romantic past before her marriage to the Prince of Wales, but it now appears the Kennedys went through the same process — although their language was more coarse.

Klein cited former Senator George Smathers, now 82, who described Kennedy's decision to own up to his fiancée about his sexual shenanigans. "Jack unloaded," Mr Smathers is quoted as saying. "He confessed everything. She handled it pretty well. She was aware that Jack was a Kennedy."

Jackie's engagement ring was bought for her by her future father-in-law, the scheming Joe Kennedy. Jack Kennedy himself "had no interest in such sentimental things" claimed Klein.

Stephanie Larson, a political science professor and media commentator at Dickinson College, Pennsylvania, said yesterday that the allegations about the Kennedys would be seen by some Americans as "spitting on someone's grave". "Enough is enough," she said.

Kennedy: let his father buy engagement ring

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Dole 'plays politics with marriage'

From Martin Fletcher in Washington

BOB DOLE suffered a new blow yesterday when two major American publications raised questions about his past and present marriages.

The Washington Post claimed Mr Dole forced his first wife, Phyllis, into a divorce she did not want and orchestrated the legal proceedings to ensure maximum speed and minimum political embarrassment. *Vanity Fair* magazine went further, alleging not only that Mr Dole was seeing another woman before the divorce but that his present marriage to Elizabeth Hanford Dole was essentially a "business association".

The charges come just days before the Republican convention opens in San Diego and will make it harder for Mr Dole either to play the "character" card against President Clinton in this autumn's presidential election, or to name another divorcee as his running mate this Saturday. Two of the leading contenders, John McCain, an Arizona senator, and Governor John Engler of Michigan, are both divorcees.

Mr Dole has highlighted his tough Kansas childhood and recovery from near-fatal war wounds during this campaign, but never speaks of his 1972 divorce. Phyllis was an occupational therapist he met during his recovery in 1948. Yesterday's articles both recounted her tireless support for her disabled husband as he studied law and began his political career, and how Mr Dole's obsession with politics after reaching Washington destroyed their marriage.

Bob Dole and his wife Elizabeth: the couple "communicate by phone and memo", an American magazine claims

"In the last year of the 23-year marriage, Senator Dole had dinner with his wife and child only twice — on Christmas and Easter," *Vanity Fair* reported. "One day in December 1970 he walked upstairs and announced simply, 'I want out'."

The *Post* reported that Mr Dole, then Republican party chairman, consulted President Nixon about the likely fallout from his divorce and strove to minimise the embarrassment. He had Phyllis file for a divorce that he had initiated. A friendly Kansas judge granted it after hours, so no reporters were present and there was no public record of the testimony. Mr Dole provided one of Phyllis's two lawyers who persuaded the judge to waive — ostensibly on her behalf — the statutory 60-day waiting period for divorce proceedings.

Phyllis, now remarried and living in Kansas, told the *Post* she was "stunned" by the suddenness of the break-up. She believed the marriage could have been saved. "I filed for divorce at his insistence . . . The way I was raised people didn't divorce." *Vanity Fair* reported that she "got no child support, only minimal alimony and her furniture".

The magazine further reported that Mr Dole had meanwhile employed a beautiful model named Phyllis Wells in his Kansas City office who could not type and mainly took phone calls from the senator. "He would spend the night at her house," another employee told the magazine. "She was just absolutely gorgeous . . . there's no question that he was seeing her prior to being divorced," said David Owen, an old but estranged Kansan friend of Mr Dole.

In 1975 Mr Dole married Elizabeth, an ambitious 39-year-old White House aide who later served in the Bush and Reagan Cabinets. A former adviser to both Doles told *Vanity Fair* they were "attracted to each other, but it was more of a business association and that's certainly what it's evolved into". A senior Dole campaign adviser called it a "very separated marriage". Mr Owen said: "He pretty much ignores her . . . Dole has basically reverted to the loner that he is. That's exactly the same thing that happened in his first marriage."

The magazine claimed the Doles "communicate by phone and memo", spent their twentieth wedding anniversary in different cities, and shared no mutual passions beyond politics.

> ‘He pretty much ignores her . . . and that's exactly the same thing that happened in his first marriage’

Jail cell searched for crash evidence

By Quentin Letts

THE New York prison cell of Ramzi Yousef, an alleged Arab terrorist, has been ransacked nightly by guards at the request of authorities investigating the crash of TWA Flight 800.

Mr Yousef, the alleged mastermind of the World Trade Centre bomb in Manhattan, is also suspected of plotting the destruction of Western airliners. His small cell at the Metropolitan Correctional Facility has been "tossed" for any evidence that might help crash investigators. The mattress has been turned upside down and his few belongings have been examined.

Last month's TWA crash off Long Island, which killed 230 people, has still not been described as a terrorist act, despite widespread suspicions of a bomb in the aircraft's cargo hold. Less than a fifth of the wreckage of the jumo jet has been retrieved from the sea, but some of it has been in remarkably good condition. Glass instruments and dials from the cockpit were found intact, as was a light bulb from the staircase beside the first class cabin, underneath which a bomb may well have been placed.

The bodies of 195 victims have been recovered. It is possible that the remaining 25 fell or were sucked out of the plane before it hit the water. Suitcases from the flight have been found six miles from the site of the main wreckage, and police divers were yesterday searching further afield for the missing bodies.

The judges at Nuremberg believed his story. But did he convince himself? And could he convince Gitta Sereny?

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Muslims ready to kill more drug dealers in Cape

By Inigo Gilmore in Johannesburg and Our Foreign Staff

AMID fears of an upsurge in gang warfare, armed Muslims paraded through Cape Town yesterday in a show of force, warning drug dealers to stop their trade or risk being killed like a gang leader who was shot and burnt at the weekend.

Chanting "*Allahu akbar*" (God is greatest) and "Kill the merchants", supporters of the militant movement People Against Gangsterism and Drugs (Pagad), many with faces covered and carrying weapons, marched to the home of an alleged drug dealer in a Coloured (mixed race) suburb of the city. "From Sunday onwards, we are going to march on the house of merchants and we are going to take them out," a young man, face wrapped in a red shawl and carrying a shotgun, shouted through a loud hailer.

They marched to the home of an alleged drug dealer in the Silvertown district. There — watched by police officers in six armoured riot-control vehicles and a fleet of smaller lorries, and with a helicopter hovering overhead shining a spotlight on the crowd — they lay down in the road shouting death threats to drug dealers.

Most of the crowd, which included a handful of women, kept their faces covered and nearly all the men carried weapons ranging from an ancient chrome-plated revolver to repeating shotguns and at least one automatic rifle.

Cape Town's Muslim districts have been living in fear since threats of reprisals by the Hard Livings gang to avenge the mob killing on Sunday of Rashaad Staggie, co-leader of the city's most feared gang. He was set alight with a petrol bomb and died in a hail of bullets in the full view of the police. His twin brother has announced that as a result the gang is at war with the anti-drug vigilantes.

A masked vigilante in Cape Town yesterday

Muslims told reporters at the scene not to refer to them as vigilantes. "We are disciplined, we are intelligent and we know exactly what we are doing. We are not vigilantes," said one man who was called "The Ameer" (the leader).

Libya's Ambassador in South Africa rejected allegations that his country was assisting Pagad. But a Muslim theologian at yesterday's march said that the vigilantes included Islamic fighters trained in Libya. Muslims were receiving military training at a secret camp near Cape Town to fight what they saw as moral corruption permeating society, a visitor to the camp said yesterday.

"There is one training camp ... about 12 miles outside Cape Town," Fuad Rahman, a Muslim journalist who has visited the camp and sympathises with its aims, said in a telephone interview.

Government officials said they had no knowledge of the camp, but Sydney Mufamadi, the Police Minister, said last week that the Government proposed to introduce legislation barring paramilitary training for any political or religious group.

"The guys are fearless," Mr Rahman said. "They are prepared to die for a cause. They have fighting in their blood."

The Cape Town police are under pressure to make arrests after the killing of Staggie amid concerns that they may be seen to be condoning the murder. Mr Mufamadi visited Cape Town yesterday to investigate the failure of the police to prevent the murder on Sunday.

Staggie, 40, was shot near his brother's home during a Pagad march against drugs, prostitution and gangs. As paramedics tried to tend him, he was set alight with a firebomb and left to run engulfed in flames through the crowd, whose members made way for him and threatened police officers who tried to go to his aid. When he fell in a gutter, men took turns firing bullets into him until he died.

Kruger Park claim

Johannesburg: A tribal group in South Africa's Northern Province has laid claim to a large swath of the world-famous Kruger National Park in a submission before the Land Restitution Commission.

The claim, expected to be gazetted today, encompasses about 123,500 acres and is one of the largest before the recently established commission, set up to investigate and adminsiter the restitution of land taken during the apartheid era. The land being claimed by the Makuleke tribe comprises of the entire park between the Limpopo, Levuvhu and Mutale rivers.

Members of the tribe were forcibly removed from the land during the 1950s and 1960s. It is one of a number of expected claims on land in the Kruger Park which was established under British colonial rule. It has been described by the Land Affairs Minister as "a playground for the white rich".

Thulamela was a walled citadel and the king's chamber had a secret entrance leading past a garrison of his personal bodyguards

African finds cast light on lost society

By Inigo Gilmore

ARCHAEOLOGISTS in South Africa have discovered the remains of an African king and queen in a walled citadel which they believe is linked to the mysterious ruins of Great Zimbabwe to the north.

The find sheds important light on the social and cultural organisations of the region's early inhabitants and provides new evidence about a sophisticated society in southern Africa when Henry VIII ruled Britain.

The couple were found a month ago at Thulamela in the Kruger National Park. They lived and died between 1500 and 1600 — their society existing more than a century before Jan van Riebeeck landed in Cape Town in 1652.

Sydney Miller, a National Parks board archaeologist, found the queen's grave when he uncovered the clay floor of what he knew was a senior wife's dwelling. Later he found the "Leopard King" below his chamber's floor.

The discovery is seen as particularly significant because it was carried out by professionals unlike earlier "finds" at the turn of the century. Archaeologists have been able to discover the context of the burials and, therefore, enhance knowledge about a period of intense interest to historians.

Sydney Miller, left, at the king's grave

The discovery in the graves of gold — believed to be the society's main currency — the burial positions and the burial locations all make the finds extremely important. Two gold bracelets, one of solid gold, the other made up of a double string of gold beads, were found in the queen's grave. Both the queen's hands were tucked under her cheek in a position of great respect, known as *losha*.

The king's body was in a sitting position facing north with various ceremonial objects around him, including an iron double gong that is characteristic of central Africa.

Other artefacts at the site show the society's wealth and include glass beads from India, Ming Dynasty porcelain and shell beads made from fesh water mussels and ostrich eggs. Some beads and bracelets were made from iron, copper and bronze. There are indications from the remains that the inhabitant's diet was healthy.

Thulamela — the place of giving birth — is near the Zimbabwean border in bushveld at the park's northeastern corner.

Excavations began in 1993 and archaeologists believe it was inhabited by a highly sophisticated society of people who were skilled goldsmiths and traded with countries such as India and China.

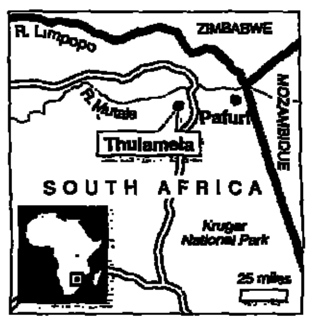
Nearby hillsides are dotted with collapsed walls and evidence of dwellings. The citadel overlooks an ancient elephant highway, once used by traders, running east-west from the Indian Ocean.

Dr Miller said that after its heyday, in the 15th and 16th centuries, Great Zimbabwe probably broke up into smaller parts with one group settling in Thulamela.

It is thought the king was a sacred leader rarely seen in public and he was closely associated with the crocodile, a symbolic link to a belief that the first man emerged from a sacred pool.

Professor Thomas Huffmann, head of archaeology at the University of the Witwatersrand, says uncovering the royal burial sites has helped to shed light on mysteries surrounding such sacred societies and confounded earlier theories that leaders of such societies were buried on hillsides. "It is a spectacular discovery," he said. "It will help to revise the way people see the pre-colonial period."

During the apartheid years the existence of pre-colonial complex societies was ignored by those who compiled school textbooks. Right-wing historians sought to claim that such social grouping came only with European setlers who arrived in the 17th century. Even into the 1980s, apartheid leaders continued to regurgitate old myths.



Aidid clan mourn and wait

The Somali warlord gave his supporters a sense of mission, **Sam Kiley** writes from Mogadishu. Now they hope his spirit will live on in his son

AT THE sound of an approaching vehicle on south Mogadishu's silent streets militia men snoozing in the shade of battle wagons leap behind their heavy machine-guns. With hard stares they train weapons on a car carrying a white man. In every soldier's mind is one question: "*Is this the gal* [unbeliever] who killed our general?"

The followers of General Muhammad Aidid cannot believe that the man they saw as invincible could have died, as he did last week, after an ordinary battlefield exchange. Members of his Habre Gedir clan fought with him against Siad Barre, whom they drove from power in 1991. They rallied to him when he took on his rival for power, Ali Mahdi Mohammed, in a series of military squabbles. And they rejoiced at his Scarlet Pimpernel evasion of a 25,000-man American and United Nations air and land dragnet in 1993.

To have been shot twice in a battle over the Medina suburb in the south of the ruined capital, and then to die of a lingering death ending in a heart attack, was unthinkable. "He was killed by the agents of foreign powers. The CIA or some organisation hired a trained assassin to take revenge for the humiliation of the Americans in 1993," said an official in the dead general's "government".

Westerners were treated with extreme suspicion or outright hosility in south Mogadishu yesterday. One yelled: "You're crazy to be here. You could be lynched."

It may seem strange, then, that the new "president" of (some) of southern Somalia is an American. In what appears an act of mass denial over the reality of the general's death, his followers have appointed his son, a former US Marine and engineer from Los Angeles, as his successor, clearly hoping the general's spirit, and policies, will live on. Hussein Aidid, 33, has vowed that this is exactly what his "government" will do. Using his father's rhetoric he pledged this week to continue with the "pacification" of Somalia — that is fighting any clan that does not recognise his government.

Ali Mahdi, another Somali who claims to be "president" but controls only north Mogadishu (about the land area of Chelsea) offered a ceasefire after the general's death. Yesterday it held, but very little traffic crossed Mogadishu's green line through the sand-blown back streets lined by buildings that looked like a Swiss cheese gnawed by rats.

Always the most dangerously anarchic part of Somalia, south Mogadishu seemed to have had its breath knocked out. The everyday clatter of gun fire, the gutteral yelling of Somalis "chatting" over tea, and shrill children playing in rubble, were gone.

The destiny of the general's supporters had always been defined by his overwhelming ambition to be president of the whole country. Yesterday Mogadishu was waiting to see if his heir would offer the same sense of mission. Or at least inspire his people to keep doing the only thing they know, fighting.

Hussein Aidid, who is popular among militiamen impressed by his marine background and battlefield bravery, has assured them he also wants to be president of all the country. However, during the week of mourning, which ends tomorrow, there is a hiatus in Mogadishu.

US-China deal leaves India out in cold on nuclear treaty

By Michael Evans, defence correspondent

CHINA has agreed to sign the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty after resolving a disagreement with the United States over on-site inspections of Chinese nuclear facilities.

India remains the sole stumbling block in the way of a signing ceremony in New York next month. Delhi insists on the five declared nuclear powers agreeing to a timetable for total disarmament, but that has been dismissed as unrealistic. The Sino-American breakthrough came during a meeting between Sha Zukang, the Chinese envoy to the United Nations Conference on Disarmament in Geneva, and Stephen Ledogard, his US counterpart.

China has expressed concern about the proposed inspection regime, which will allow checks of nuclear establishments to guard against cheating. Diplomatic sources in Geneva said that, under previous proposals, 26 countries of the treaty's 51-member executive council would have had to give prior approval to an on-site inspection.

Now the draft treaty will be changed, making it necessary for 30 countries to approve. The diplomatic sources agreed that that was a slight softening of the inspection procedure and that it would make it marginally more difficult to get an inspection approved.

China was also concerned about America using spy satellites to monitor Chinese nuclear facilities. Before the talks in Geneva resumed, China had said that it would never sign an "unequal treaty giving one very advanced country" — America — exclusive power to launch nuclear inspections.

A member of the Chinese negotiating team said last month: "We cannot allow a few countries to be self-proclaimed international police and we can never accept this." The agreement reached with the Chinese is understood to include assurances from Washington about the kinds of national surveillance methods that can be used as a basis for checks.

The breakthrough with the Chinese has focused all efforts on persuading India to agree to let the draft treaty be sent to New York for signature. India, however, appears to be adamantly opposed to any compromise.

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China and US face fresh rift

By James Pringle
in Hong Kong

CHINA warned the United States yesterday against allowing Lien Chan, Taiwan's Vice President, to visit the country. But Washington seems intent on ignoring the objections.

The issue could indicate more trouble for Sino-American relations after stormy exchanges last year and earlier this year.

Lien will be permitted to stay in the United States for one or two days next week, on his way to the presidential inauguration in the Dominican Republic, which recognises Taipei, according to American press reports.

A Chinese Foreign Ministry spokesman said yesterday that Peking had made known its opposition to the trip. However, analysts said that in an election year, the Clinton Administration could not be seen to give in to China.

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Ghost of the missing twin

Dr Thomas Stuttaford on multiple births, psychiatric disorders, stress, Alzheimer's and asthma

In a memorable interview, Enoch Powell described his sense of guilt and sorrow that he returned from the war while so many of his contemporaries were killed. How much more disturbing for a surviving twin who has lived with a brother or sister in the enclosed world of the womb, only for the sibling to die in the last weeks of pregnancy, during delivery or later in the nursery.

Surviving twins start life with a sometimes unendurable sense of guilt, for they blame themselves for their sibling's death and subconsciously, or even consciously, suspect that their parents also see them as murderers who have killed the other baby by taking more than their fair share of the nutrition, or of the available space, in the uterus.

Surprisingly, the emotional and psychological problems felt by the surviving twin, which are often expressed as depression and sometimes as behavioural disorders, are more intense if the child has no recollection of the death of the other twin. Sometimes surviving twins also have a sense of insecurity, for they reason that if the parents couldn't keep their brother or sister alive, are they likely to do any better with them?

Coupled with the feeling that he or she is guilty, the twin who lives may also sense that they have been deserted by the dead sibling, who has left them with an immense obligation to make it up to the parents for the family loss. Thereafter they believe that they have to do better, and be better, because of the death — emotions which can put a great burden on shoulders which are not always strong enough to carry them.

In a report in the journal *Advances In Perinatal Medicine*, the author describes the state of being a twin of a stillborn baby as a psychological catastrophe. This may be an overstatement, but several research projects have demonstrated that these children have an increased chance of suffering from depression in adult life.

The advice given to parents in the authoritative work on twins, *Multiple Pregnancy*, suggests that a surviving twin should be told about the dead baby from the start. Parents, other members of the family and teachers should not only talk about the lost twin, but should show that they are ready to listen to a confused young child's delusions, however bizarre, about their supposedly murderous foetal life, and should be prepared to provide the necessary reassurance.

> 'Surviving twins feel that their parents see them as murderers'

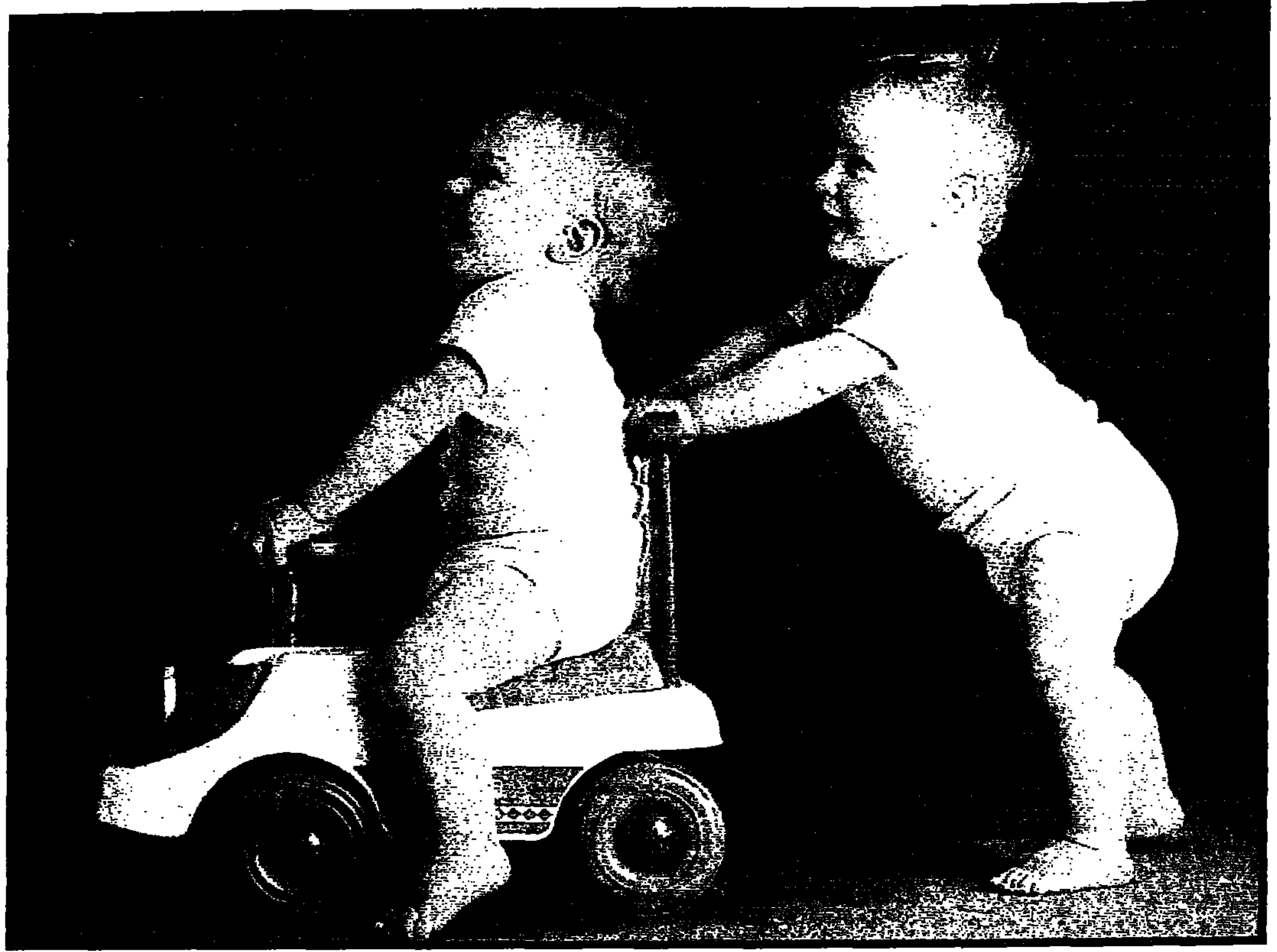
Not all women are equally liable to have twins. In the Western world, twins are conceived more often when the sun is shining, for the sun is thought to influence ovulation through its effect on the pineal gland. Certainly there is a slight increase in the number of twins conceived during the summer months. The rate of twin pregnancies varies throughout the world — in some parts of West Africa it is four times greater than it is in Britain, which has a rate of 12.4 per thousand. Older women have more twins than younger ones: many a woman in her late thirties has been surprised not only to be pregnant, but to be pregnant with twins. Larger, taller women have twins more often than do those who are short and petite, and there is a strong familial tendency to produce twins.

When twins run in a family, the babies are usually not identical and it seems that inheritance comes down the mother's side. There is also a very slight familial tendency to have identical twins, in which case either parent may transmit the appropriate genes.

It is difficult to be certain how many twins are actually conceived as opposed to being born, as twins are very vulnerable in the early days of a pregnancy. Many die during the first stages of development. Since the use of ultrasound has become standard, it is apparent that twins are conceived much more often than was hitherto supposed. It now seems likely that at least 3 per cent of all pregnancies start as twins but that, in nearly a quarter of cases, one twin disappears.

The loss of a twin at this very early stage of pregnancy does not have the same long-term psychological implications for the surviving twin as it would do if the death occurred later. The mother, too, is probably unaware that the second foetus ever existed.

● Multiple Pregnancy, *edited by Humphry Ward and Martin Whittle, is published by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists, £48*



BUBBLES

Happy twins at play. But if only one sibling lives, the burden of guilt that the surviving twin inherits can cause lifelong psychological problems

Far-reaching effects of stress

AFTER the Second World War it was found that former prisoners held in the Far East were dying earlier from a wide variety of causes, not only from those diseases which would immediately be associated with malnutrition and incarceration.

Recent surveys have shown a similar picture in people who have moved from East to West Germany, from communism to capitalism. Whether the cause is the life-style they endured during the Cold War, or whether it is from the stress which a competitive society induces, is uncertain.

The role of stress as a cause of coronary heart disease and its effect on blood pressure is unquestioned. Stress too can be shown to influence gastrointestinal problems, and the skin. It is more difficult to prove that physical or mental stress can be a factor in developing malignant disease or falling prey to an infection. But recently there has been very convincing evidence that stress, including strenuous athletic training, weakens the immune system. With a compromised immune system, patients could well be liable to become victims of an infecting organism, or less resistant to potentially cancerous changes in the body's cells.

Constant stress, such as experienced by someone living in a hostile environment, can lead to mental as well as physical symptoms. People become anxious, fearful and depressed; their performance deteriorates and their liability to accidents, as well as to disease, increases. Many of these patients respond by eating or drinking too much; neither habit is likely to improve life expectancy.

TV encounter highlights the link between physical and psychiatric disorders

When it's all in the mind

My encounter with Esther Rantzen and her cohorts from the ME Association on BBC television on Monday evening has had at least one advantage. It has drawn attention to the complex inter-relationship between psychiatric disorders and physical symptoms. Physical disease is all too easily confused with psychological disorder; excessive fatigue can be caused by many organic diseases, ranging from rarities such as Addison's disease to common conditions like thyroid dysfunction and anaemia. Or depression can, for instance, be the first sign of a growing tumour, or even diabetes. Brain tumours or dementia will often first show as a personality change in the patient.

It is as important for doctors to spot the development of psychiatric troubles in a patient who is initially seen for the treatment of an established physical disorder, as it is to defeat the physical symptoms which result from psychiatric disease.

It is stressful being ill, or having any medical problem, particularly when associated with disability or surgery. It is bound to have an effect on a patient's social and professional life, and may produce difficulties which can be so worrying that they lead to psychiatric symptoms which need expert help. In many cases seen by doctors, both a patient's body and mind need care if they are to return to good health, and neither one is more important than the other.

The greatest difficulty is often in making a diagnosis when the physical symptoms of which a patient is complaining have resulted from psychological disorder. The problem isn't made any easier by the similarity of the symptoms which affect so many psychologically disturbed patients. These people tend to complain of dizziness, headaches, chest pain, diarrhoea or constipation, bladder troubles, muscle pains, inordinate fatigue, loss of voice, breathlessness and palpitations. But however strong is the suspicion that there is no organic cause, the doctor in each and every case has to make certain that there is no physical reason for the trouble. Any of these symptoms could herald a serious disease. But even while doctors are carrying out the necessary tests to exclude this, they also have to remember that excessive concern, and over-enthusiasm for laboratory and X-ray investigations, may make the situation worse.

A televised debate with Esther Rantzen had one advantage

Although depression frequently results in physical symptoms, so too can many psychiatric diseases, including anxiety states, personality disorders, and even schizophrenia and its related conditions.

Chronic fatigue syndrome, which many doctors think a more accurate term than ME, can be induced, as can depression and other psychiatric troubles, by viral illnesses. But the proof that they are responsible for the persistent disability associated with the syndrome has never been found. The standard advice given to patients with chronic fatigue syndrome, which is a very genuine illness, is that as some sufferers will improve with anti-depressant treatment, this should be prescribed.

All the patients should be encouraged to take physical exercise, for there is well documented evidence that it is important to persuade patients to avoid permanent bed rest, or to rely on wheelchairs.

In discussing the physical symptoms which are often seen in psychiatric disease it is of fundamental importance to explain to patients that there is no question that these are the result of malingering. Malingering is a deliberate effort to confuse the doctor so that a diagnosis of disease is made when none is present. The physical symptoms which afflict psychologically disordered patients are very real and can be totally disabling.

Big heads and the Alzheimer's link

HATS are now rarely worn but in the days of National Service it was interesting to see the very variable sizes of all the many service dress caps left in the hall of an officer's mess, and to try to relate them to their owners' intellectual capacity.

Despite a widespread belief that a large head is associated with a high IQ (in cartoons, no professor is ever depicted with a small head), there is no evidence for this. The cleverest officer in the regiment may well be a pin-head.

Research recently published in the *British Journal of Psychiatry* has shown that there is, however, one link between head size and intellect: the larger the head, the less likely is the person to suffer from Alzheimer's disease in old age.

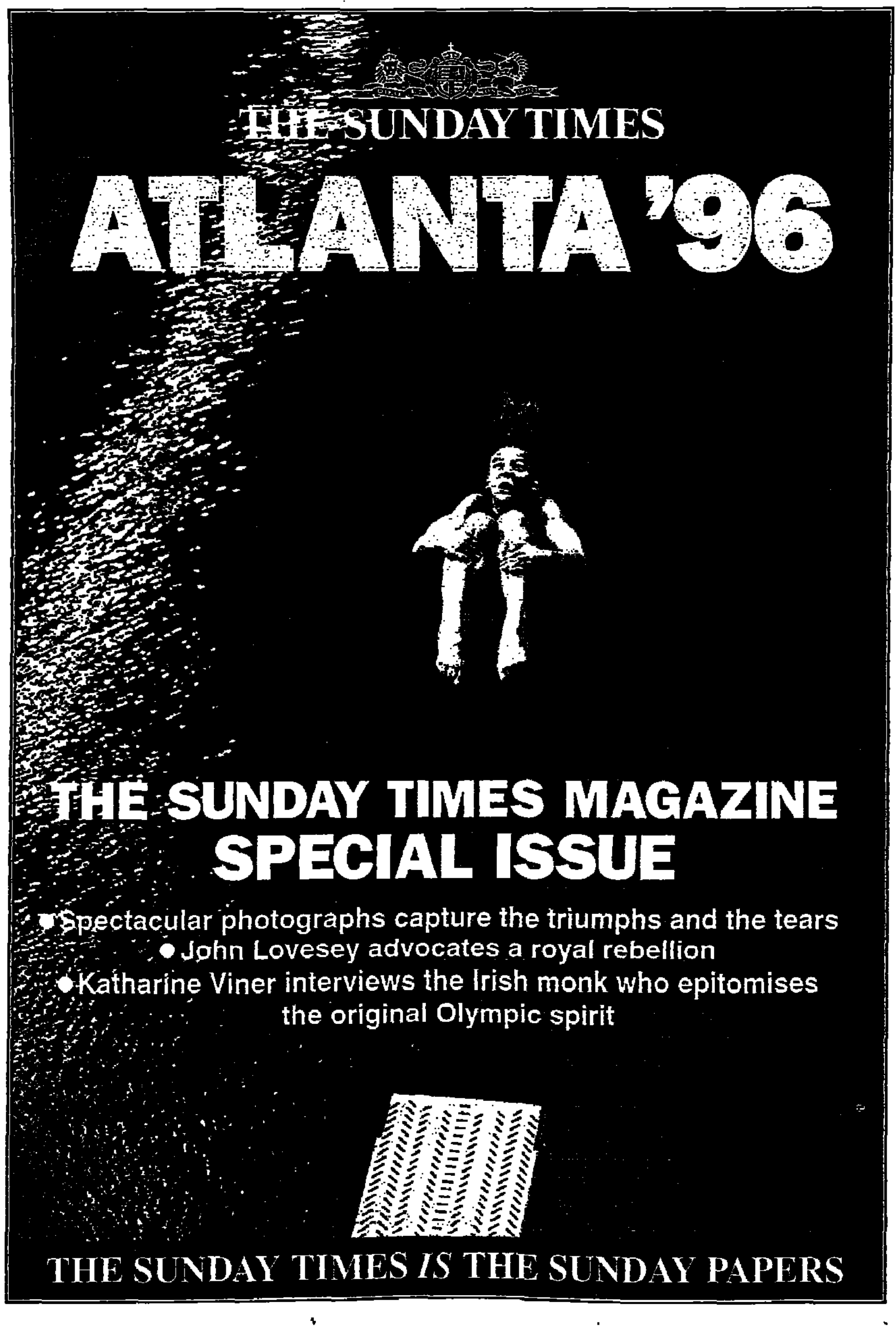
Although Alzheimer's is an organic disease with well described changes visible under the microscope, and although in some types of it, particularly those which tend to come on in late middle age or early old age, there is a strong family history, in other cases there are factors which seem to influence the age of onset. In cases without a clear family history Alzheimer's seems to become obvious in previously intelligent people at an older age than it does in those whose interests have been less intellectual, and who have not maintained an active, inquiring mind. Doing *The Times* crossword puzzle each morning may help to delay the onset of dementia even if it cannot prevent it altogether.

The *BMJ*, commenting on the study, suggests that big heads contain large brains which may have a greater reserve capacity and so are more able to cope with the loss of brain tissue in later life. As nutrition in and around the time of birth is a factor in determining head size, the *BJP* also wonders whether good feeding at that time might not influence the onset of dementia 60, 70, or 80 years later.

Re-learning an asthma lesson

SO MUCH research is undertaken that too often the discoveries of one's youth are forgotten, only to be relearnt by a new generation. A report in the *International Journal of Epidemiology* has recently confirmed that people with severe asthma have more heart attacks than do the rest of the population.

Although asthma in the survey was associated with death from coronary heart disease in both sexes, the increased risk was *particularly marked in* women. The authors suggest that one of the possible causes is the use of steroid tablets to treat some cases of asthma. This is an unlikely proposition, as the late Dr Geoffrey Konstam, a cardiologist, taught me about the association between asthma and coronary thrombosis. And at the time, steroids were neither readily available nor prescribed to control a severe attack of asthma.



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Can this child escape from pimps and perverts?

Lotte Hughes on a scheme to protect the children of Calcutta's prostitutes from poverty and sexual abuse

PHOTOGRAPHS BY DARIO MITIDIERI/SAVE THE CHILDREN

Seven-year-old Chaya may not have been sexually exploited yet, but she is a prime candidate, tiny, pretty, defenceless. "Many girls get abused," she says

Seven-year-old Chaya is a wide-eyed new arrival at Sealdah North Station, home to scores of drifters in the pulsating heart of Calcutta. All she owns is a pair of grubby pink pants and a pink lipstick she says she found on the street. While we chat, she daubs her lips and my face and hands.

Though she looks all alone in the world, Chaya has a family — of sorts. Daddy drinks a lot, she says, and doesn't look after them. Her mother is a prostitute who works the station. The pair of them live on platform eight.

Chaya may not have been sexually exploited — yet. But she is a prime candidate, tiny, pretty, defenceless, unsupervised. Children of prostitutes are particularly vulnerable to sexual abuse and being drawn into their mother's trade. "I don't like it here on the station," she says, shaking her head vigorously. Why not? Do girls have a tough time? "Yes, many girls get abused," she says. Their abusers are both men and boys who live on the station.

Chaya may have struck lucky. She has turned up at a 24-hour drop-in centre for so-called "platform children" run by CINI ASHA, a sister organisation of the Child In Need Institute. It is no more than a shed, but it offers children a safe place to sleep, wash, eat, play and get informal lessons and health care. The social workers say they hope to see more of Chaya; she needs support and protection.

In another part of Calcutta, girls like Chaya are safer. In the Rambagan red-light area, CINI ASHA is working with prostitutes and community leaders to give vulnerable children a haven. At first sight, it looks anything but. Visiting Rambagan is like stepping into a Dickensian slum. One of its darkened alleyways ends in a cul-de-sac filled with blinding light. In a shrine, behind an iron grille, sits an Indian goddess on a golden ass. Garlands and coins are strewn at her feet. She irradiates the faces of the glum, painted women sitting on their doorsteps before her.

The golden girl is Shitala (pronounced Sitala), goddess of infectious diseases. She has been adopted by the 1,200 prostitutes of Rambagan slum. "The women believe she is the only one who will listen, so they pray to her and air their feelings," explains community worker Arun Singh. It is a pitiful sight, and an odd one: the goddess rubs shoulders with the hammer and sickle, daubed on the brothel walls in this corner of a Marxist-run city.

These prostitutes are rarely listened to by anyone. Seen as the lowest of the low, they are looked down on even by the girls of Calcutta's traditional red-light district near by. They are not from traditional prostitute families, tend not to have patrons, madams or pimps, and are mostly rural migrants who have been forced into the sex trade by poverty and circumstance.

Not one of these women says she would be a prostitute if she had a choice. Now they are making sure their children get a chance to break out of the cycle.

The solution is very simple — a sort of children's curfew, which takes them off the street at night but also away from home. Every evening, when most children head home from school, the children of Rambagan go in the opposite direction to a special centre where they are safe from the surrounding influences, if only for a few hours. They can do their homework without fear of interruption by mother's "punters", get extra coaching and enjoy a wide range of games, arts and crafts and other activities.

Studies show that children of "sex workers" and others living in red-light areas are most at risk of sexual exploitation and enticement into the sex trade; the prostitutes of Rambagan are the first to say they don't want this to happen. Sending their children to this drop-in centre between the hours of 6pm and 10pm is a safety measure that could save their lives.

"We have problems in the evening when the customers come — there is no place for the children to go," explains Purnima, a prostitute and mother of two. "So what used to happen was that our children roamed around in gangs and there were no facilities for them. We have no other way of earning a living. We have no option. So when the centre opened, I was relieved."

Like everyone here, Purnima works and lives in one small room of a tenement. Families are packed in so tightly, as many as 11 people to a room, that some children even have to sleep under their mother's bed. Beside the space problems, if children stay home in the evenings they run the risk of becoming easy prey for customers. Men's eyes soon wander to nubile daughters — pre-pubescent virgins are highly prized, not least because men are afraid of catching Aids and other sexually transmitted diseases and are prepared to pay over the odds to sleep with children. Studies show that fear of Aids has led to increasing exploitation of girls, not just in India but worldwide.

The red-light district of Rambagan

So pretty girls are asked to sing and dance for men's entertainment. Boys get drawn into fetching cigarettes and alcohol. It's a short step to prostitution and pimping.

CINI opened the drop-in centres and a halfway house to give street children a place of safety, informal education and other practical help. But its social workers soon realised that other children were at high risk, too. With a local youth club, it opened the Rambagan centre to protect the children of prostitutes. The women were wary at first.

"To begin with I was hesitant," says Purnima, whose son Samir and daughter Soma attend the centre. "We were confused and suspicious. We wondered, 'What's going on? Why are they taking an interest in our children?' But we soon realised that they were doing something for the betterment of our children. If they get educated, they won't follow in our footsteps."

"They are looking after my child very well," says another prostitute, Laxmi, of her youngest daughter. "Now I don't have to worry about her. When I'm busy with my customers, my daughter goes to the centre for coaching."

If this after school safety net did not exist, she says, children playing in the street would be targeted by roving men: "When we are dealing with our customers, other men — outsiders — can easily sexually abuse our children."

Laxmi says she wants to prevent her younger daughter going down the same road; it's already too late for her elder daughter. "I'm very anxious about my first daughter — she's recently had no choice but to follow in my footsteps."

A reluctant prostitute, Laxmi is clearly upset about her daughter's prospects. "Coming from this sort of background, people easily reject us. It's also very difficult to get our daughters married. But we have no choice but to do this work."

Hers is a classic tale of a poor village woman, an economic migrant to the city. It began with a bad marriage to a husband who beat her and died young, leaving her at the mercy of hostile in-laws, angered by her small dowry. "They started calling me a thief and a cheat but I was blameless; it was very tough for me to cope with the situation. Then I met a guy who told me if I came with him to the city, he'd arrange a good job for me. So I came with this guy to Calcutta."

She soon realised her mistake, but there was no going back — even if she knew the way. Even now, years later, she looks anguished. "I had no idea how to get back to my place so I had to accept the situation. I got angry, but when the money started coming into my hand I realised this was the only way to survive. I also had my first daughter to think of — I had to survive for my daughter's sake."

Other case histories of children at the centre tell a similar sorry story. Almost all their mothers came to Calcutta from poor rural areas in west Bengal.

Amit's mother, Kakoli, was married at 14 to a chronic alcoholic who beat her and forced her to become a prostitute to pay for his habit. When an old woman in her village promised her a job in Calcutta, Kakoli followed her to town where she was sold to one of the old woman's brothers and forced back on the game.

Sutapa's mother, Gopa, was the oldest of seven children of a poor peasant. At 13 she married a man 20 years older. After a short time he drove her out. Acute poverty forced her to move to Calcutta to try her luck. After working as a maid for three years, the burden of supporting her large family pushed her into prostitution at 18.

A recent study by CINI of the links between child sexual abuse and "commercial vice" in Calcutta, funded by Britain's Save the Children, found that education is highly prized by parents in Rambagan and another red-light area, Sethbagan. Of the six areas surveyed altogether, these two came top in terms of parental eagerness to educate both boys and girls, high primary school attendance and low drop-out rates. If education is the path out of poverty, these women are on track.

Laxmi and her friend Parul have been trained as safe-sex educators under a government approved scheme. "If I'd had these sorts of opportunities earlier," says Laxmi, "I could have done something else for a living. I'd like to give up my job and be a health worker."

Parul agrees. But safe-sex educators are paid just 300 rupees a month, which barely covers the rent on a one-roomed shack. To feed a family of three with simple meals for a month costs 1,400 rupees; Parul can earn 3,000 rupees a month as a prostitute.

Down at the drop-in centre, a big whitewashed building overlooking a park, shy teenage girls in lacy dresses — the daughters of Rambagan — tell me why they like coming here. "I used to have problems, especially in the evenings," says Sima, 14. "It was difficult for me to find a place to study. I had to spend all my time outside in the street. This community is not at all safe for children of my age, especially for girls."

Her friend Meeta, 18, says: "Before I started coming here four years ago, I had to spend my evenings on the street. I had nowhere else to go after school and none of my friends would allow me to go to their house for dinner."

Cast out, she felt vulnerable and alone. "I was very afraid. I'm most scared of the drunken guys who are roaming around. I feel quite safe in the centre. I'd like to stay here for the whole night — I don't want to go home.

"All the teachers are very affectionate and take care of us. What I want to do now is continue my studies and take care of my mother so she doesn't have to work . . ."

We must do lunch, darling

Joe Joseph heaps his plate full of very good reasons to get out of the office as the clock strikes one

When one o'clock approaches, and our office colleagues are all grabbing their jackets and making a dash for the nearest restaurant, you and I — being so conscientious that we cannot even sleep at night unless we have devised six new ways to boost our productivity — always make sure we are first out of the door.

Yesterday we lunchers might have been called shirkers. Today we have become selfless employees who think only of doing what's in our bosses' best interest.

A survey, commissioned by Boots the chemist, has found that Stakhanovites who eat lunch at their desks are often left feeling angry, depressed and tetchy during the afternoon. They are also irritable when dealing with customers: this ranks as acceptable behaviour only if your job happens to involve working in one of those shady places in Soho where customers pay big money to be abused.

It turns out that four out of five office-based workers regularly eat lunch at their desk. More than 70 per cent of them continue to work as they chew, and nearly 90 per cent still answer work-related questions from colleagues — presumably more than whether Anne is still sleeping with Martin from Personnel. The side-effects of this office anger and irritability are costing companies £32 million a year, because tasks are carried out so inefficiently that they often have to be done again.

It is astonishing that anyone needed a survey to discover all this. Long, relaxed lunches, far away from work, are an important method of putting clear water between you and the office. This is crucial if you want to get a bit of mental fresh air and to swap office gossip without the risk of being overheard.

You need only look at the Italians, who eat lunch as if it were the last meal of a condemned man, to see the benefits. Visit Rome at lunchtime and you'll find that Italians have worked out the priorities in life, such as knowing how much to bribe the maitre d' of a popular restaurant.

In other countries, lunch is more than just a chance to stock up on calories. In places such as Norway and Iceland, for example, where whole months can pass in permanent daylight or permanent darkness, a well-demarcated lunch break is often the only way of being really sure that you are halfway through the day.

Lunch is important for mental fresh air and office gossip

Meeting office or industry colleagues for lunch is also in all our commercial interests, since it promotes the cross-fertilisation of ideas. In the heyday of Fleet Street, El Vino would bristle with eager journalists so determined to cross-fertilise their ideas with colleagues and newspaper rivals that many of them would selflessly extend their lunches well into the cocktail hour.

The publisher's lunch was also once both an English landmark and a financial godsend for the book business. Once a year, half-starved writers would emerge from their garrets to be liquid-lunched — becoming so light-headed that by 4pm their editors could persuade them to sign a three-book deal for a sum that would barely keep them in teabags for a year.

But in 1990s England we have turned into such grim practitioners of siesta-inducing lunches that our unique contribution to international culinary vocabulary is now the "all-day breakfast". And we have become such chat-free slaves to electronic messaging that even when we escape for lunch in a proper restaurant we find ourselves trying to e-mail our order to the kitchen.

Still, if there is one thing grimmer than stinting on a restaurant lunch by eating at your desk, it is making the effort to eat out and then feeling so guilty that you order something healthy and dispiriting, such as steamed tofu.

But anyone who seriously believes there are dozens of exciting ways with tofu would do well to remember that even Einstein only managed a handful of great theories in his life. And guess what: slapping a piece of Canadian cheddar inside two slices of Hovis wasn't one of them.

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A blind eye from Nelson Mandela

The ANC 'miracle' is reaching very few, writes **Philip Powell**

Visiting Britain shortly after President Mandela's successful visit, I was soon made aware that after a period of indifference, he had achieved only a momentary rekindling of interest in the affairs of South Africa.

How quickly things have returned to what they were! After the relative success of South Africa's first democratic election in 1994, apartheid was successfully relegated to the rubbish heap of history along with the easily understood morality play of black/white conflict. South Africa is no longer centre stage in world politics. The convolutions of its post-apartheid problems defy easy categorisation. With the exception of a brief mention of the sacking of the outspoken ANC Deputy Minister, Bantu Holomisa, and successes in the Atlanta Olympics, South Africa has not been making the news.

It has long been a reality of African politics that conflict and even genocide is largely ignored when committed by Africans against Africans. What made South Africa so different in the past, and galled popular sentiment, was that a white minority of European origin was perpetuating the horrors.

State repression in the KwaZulu-Natal province of South Africa by an ANC-led government against its black political rivals — with its human rights abuses, torture and assassination — is often every bit as brutal as the excesses of the old regime. But 22 unarmed people shot by the South African Police Services in the KwaZulu township of Wembezi did not make news in Britain. Political commentators chose to ignore the danger signs coming from South Africa during Mandela's recent visit, and preferred to popularise a romantic notion of South Africa as one of Africa's success stories, the "rainbow nation" of Bishop Desmond Tutu led by a magnanimous and benign senior statesman. In reality, it is a country in continuing crisis.

There is a desperate impulse on the part of many in this country finally to close the chapter of colonialism and to indulge in a cathartic, cleansing celebration, rather than to reflect reality.

The magnanimity of the ANC extends only to its former white adversaries, which is perhaps what makes it so popular in Britain. The ANC's ability to work closely with the National Party and publicly to eulogise the ultra-right Freedom Front leader General Constand Viljoen contrasts strongly with the treatment accorded the predominantly black Inkatha Freedom Party, led by Chief Buthelezi. The killing of Inkatha members and assassinations of its leaders have continued unabated since the election of an ANC government. To date some 428 Inkatha office-bearers have been murdered, but official enthusiasm in the investigations has cooled significantly since the ANC took control of the South African Police. To date only some 3 per cent of these murders have led to prosecutions.

The criminal slaughter of Zulus during a march in central Johannesburg on the eve of the 1994 election, the Shell House massacre, was compounded when President Mandela publicly took responsibility for having given the orders to the ANC's security department to gun down the marches. I sat in the benches of the Senate opposite him on the day he made this startling confession, knowing that there was little or no chance of the killers ever being brought to book once he had assumed liability.

And yet the ANC has mounted a masterful public relations exercise. The South African "miracle" is part of it. It is a "miracle" that has not reached those who need homes, employment, health care and education. Nor has it reached those struggling to sustain small enterprises, which are crippled by exorbitant taxation and regulation. There has been no miracle either in the struggle of those who are trying to protect their cultural and social identity, including their religious practices and traditions.

The "miracle" has been a blessing for those privileged few who have linked themselves into the system of distribution of the ruling party's political clientele. During the past year we have witnessed the consolidation of a new system of power, centred around a small political and trade union aristocracy. The ANC's bid to control all aspects of social, cultural and economic life is fuelled not so much by ideology as by a desire to create a network of patronage. The ANC believes the suffering of anti-apartheid activists has given them a licence to emerge as Africa's newest "kleptocracy", following in the tradition of their former National Party adversaries.

By this process, a clear divide has been formed which separates those who are benefiting from the great majority, who are suffering to keep the ANC and its allies, the Communist Party and the trade unions in power. ANC policies in the labour field are symptomatic of how it is ruling South Africa, and for whose benefit. The Labour Relations Act — railroaded through the new Parliament in the face of united opposition — has empowered a small trade union aristocracy, which does not represent the majority of workers. The closed shop has been resurrected. South Africa's labour legislation operates as a non-tariff trade barrier against foreign investment by the subsidiaries of foreign corporations, and makes a mockery of efforts to encourage inward investment.

> Outrages committed by black on black do not make the news

South Africa's re-emergence into the family of nations has starkly indicated the ANC's political values. President Mandela has lavished praise on Sinn Fein's Gerry Adams, Libya's Gaddafi and Cuba's Castro. The ANC, sadly, feels it has debts to pay to its former revolutionary allies, which fail to show the mature and balanced leadership among developing countries that the world community now expects.

What is needed for the interests of ordinary South Africans to prevail is a more hard-headed, honest approach, which applies the same standards of moral, economic and ethical standards to the new Government in Pretoria as it applied to the old regime. Investment, aid and participation need to be tied to the Government's willingness to clean up its act, to get rid of its murderous friends from the past, and to honour its agreements. Human rights abuse should meet the same international condemnation whether it is the murder of Biko, the shooting at Sharpeville or the more recent Shell House massacre. If the international community fails to come to terms with the fallibility of the ANC and its leadership, South Africans will continue to suffer.

Senator Philip Powell is Inkatha spokesman on defence and intelligence, and serves on the Parliamentary Defence Committee.

Niall Ferguson argues that direct action is futile self-indulgence

Two wheels good, four wheels bad

We British regard land reclamation as virtuous — think of all those Victorians draining fens and marshes. Street reclamation, however, is another matter.

Yesterday a group calling itself "Reclaim the Streets" managed to make London's already dire traffic problems even worse, which is no mean feat. As if yet another one-day Tube strike were not enough, commuters had to contend with hordes of militant cyclists doing their best to block a number of major routes.

Their ostensible purpose was to protest against the tyranny of the internal combustion engine. Having seen such demonstrations before, not only in London but also in Berlin, I can assure you that this is not their real purpose. Their real purpose is fun.

Yes, I know that seems implausible. But to a certain type of person — the type precisely identified by George Orwell as the crank — cycling slowly along a hugely busy road at rush-hour is an intensely pleasurable thing to do. Similar people derive equal delight from disrupting fox hunts and preventing the construction of by-passes. And their idea of sheer heaven is to break into a hangar and smash up a couple of jet fighters.

In years to come, I have no doubt that solemn bearded types will write social histories of Britain in the 1980s and 1990s in which such forms of "radical protest" and "direct action" will figure prominently, just as rick-burning, Luddism, Swing riots and the suffragettes figure prominently in today's history textbooks.

The reason for this is simple: such solemn bearded types (and their solemn, spotty students) are precisely the sort of cranks who join groups like "Reclaim the Streets". And ever since 1968, they have set out to show that their hobby is a worthwhile way of carrying on. In their eyes, reclaiming the streets is part of a noble tradition of "grass-roots activism".

Now as any football hooligan will confirm, it is fun to reclaim the streets. But to the crank there is something morally unsatisfactory about this. To do something purely for fun is, in the eyes of these latter-day Puritans, deeply suspect. Hence the need for a cause.

Admittedly, as causes go, "bicycle rights" is unpromising, not to say silly. But it does have the one vital ingredient which is indispensable to a good crank cause: like the Calvinism from which it derives, it divides the world into the Elect (cyclists) and the Damned (drivers). Of, if you prefer, like the Marxism from which it is also descended, it posits a class war in the sphere of transport.

I have to admit that there are times when I envy the cranks. It must be very consoling to feel that sense of self-righteousness tinged with hatred for the enemy as you pedal along. But there is a problem which I am obliged to point out. *It doesn't work.* Such forms of protest *never* achieve their stated objectives, no matter what the social historians would like to believe. For in a parliamentary system there are only two ways of achieving (or preventing) legislative changes, and "reclaiming the streets" does neither.

The first way is to persuade a majority of members of Parliament and/or voters. The last way of doing this is by disrupting London traffic, for there are few groups of people more likely to be incensed by such disruption than MPs — unless, that is, you do it in August, when they are all in Chiantishire, in which case there are few groups less likely to give a damn.

As for voters, this is one class struggle in which the oppressed are so comprehensively outnumbered by the oppressors that protest is simply futile. Four per cent of us go to work by bike: 66 per cent by car.

So the effect of yesterday's protest, if any, will have been not to increase the likelihood of legislation being enacted to promote the use of bicycles, but to reduce it by leaving the political majority irritated or indifferent.

There is, however, a second way of achieving your ends; and that is by killing people, or indeed, being killed. Terrorism works. This is the lesson of the past 200 years. Radical minorities can achieve quite extraordinary things, if only they are prepared to resort to violence. That was always the difference between England and the Continent: while English radicals were content to reclaim the streets — at most inflicting damage on property — European radicals built barricades and started shooting.

Which brings us to another form of traffic disruption closer to home. Readers will need no reminding that we are in the middle of the marching season in Northern Ireland. Now superficially there is no difference between a bunch of cyclists cluttering up a street and a bunch of Orangemen doing the same. Except that behind every Orange march there lies the implicit threat of a resumption of loyalist violence. If the Ulstermen were only interested in "reclaiming the streets" they marched down, I doubt we would pay them the slightest attention.

The moral of all this for the cranks on cycles is clear. You need to change your tactics. Either try persuading people that cycling is a realistic mode of transport in London. Or — forgive me for sounding like an *agent provocateur* — start shooting motorists. Though I warn you: those little hats you wear will not be much use if we start fighting back.

The author is a fellow of Jesus College, Oxford.

The company of strangers

Philosophers have long believed in life elsewhere in the Universe

William Rees-Mogg

I had not expected anything so exciting and enjoyable to happen this week as the news of Mars. Nasa has published a scientific experiment which tends to demonstrate the truth of Plato's *Timaeus*. Plato argued that the maker of the Universe "distributed souls equal in number to the stars, inserting each in each". This creative demi-urge also thought that the Universe would be imperfect if it did not "contain every kind of animal in its spacious extent". Plato took his cosmology partly from earlier Greek philosophers, including Pythagoras. The idea that the Universe is teeming with life is at least 2,500 years old, and probably much older than that. Nasa's discovery of fossil microbes from Mars gives modern support to the belief in the universality of life forms.

This Platonic idea greatly influenced early-18th-century thinking; Fontenelle wrote about "the plurality of worlds"; in his *Essay on Man*, Alexander Pope wrote: "Through world unnumbered though the God be known, / 'Tis ours to trace him only in our own." George Berkeley, the Anglo-Irish philosopher, thought that the universal life force was a "pure spirit or invisible fire ever ready to exert and show itself in its effects, cherishing, heating, fermenting, dissolving, shining, and operating in various manners, where a subject offers to employ or determine its force. It is present in all parts of the Earth and firmament".

Early in our own century, the great French philosopher Henri Bergson, an acute critic of naïve Darwinism, published *L'évolution créatrice*, which introduced its concept of the the *élan vital*, a force which represents "the continuously creative nature of reality". Writing to congratulate him, his American contemporary, William James, commented: "Were it not for your style, your book might last 100 years unnoticed." One cannot say that it had been unnoticed, as it influenced George Bernard Shaw among others. Yet if one compares it with the cruder and less interesting theories of Sigmund Freud, whom William James thought to be "a man obsessed with fixed ideas", *L'évolution créatrice* has had much less impact than it deserves. Perhaps, nearly 100 years later, people will now realise that the *élan vital* exists on Mars.

These ancient theories of cosmology have great importance to human psychology, because they address the questions of the nature of man and his place in the Universe. Human beings, from earliest childhood, are naturally interested in the questions of their own origins.

The discovery of traces of past life on Mars, if it is scientifically substantiated, takes a stage further the process of removing man from the centre of the Universe. Until about 500 years ago, man, set apart from the animals, was the lord and master of the Ptolemaic Universe, in which, although below the angels, he was thought to be the only rational creature. His Earth was the centre of the Universe. He was the hero of the play in the only theatre in town. The Copernican revolution showed that the Earth was not the centre of the Universe; the development of astronomy has shown that the sun is itself a minor star in one of millions of galaxies.

In 1859, Charles Darwin's *Origin of Species* demonstrated that man was essentially the same as the other animals, and had developed his intelligence and other capacities in the same way as they had developed theirs, by a process of natural selection and survival. Man was no longer the unique hero of the play, and he was not acting in the only theatre in town.

Even then, if life had only developed on one planet in the whole Universe, a hypothesis which always seemed rather unlikely, man was at least living in the only town that was known to exist. Until, late in the last century, some Eskimos were found in Greenland who had never seen other human beings. They knew there were seals and polar bears, but thought their village contained the only people on Earth. Until this week man could still reasonably believe there might be no other comparable intelligent life in the rest of the Universe.

The Mars discovery makes that absurdly unlikely. If there has been life on Mars, there will almost certainly be varied life on other planets of other stars in other galaxies, probably on millions of them. We have been separated from these other life forms only by the immense distances between the stars. There is no reason to think that man is the most advanced life form, even in his own terms of intelligence. Pope thought that we occupy a middle place in a "vast chain of being". As human nature is plainly imperfect, it is easy to imagine intellectual beings who have progressed far beyond the point we have yet reached. If there have been microbes on Mars, what we know of the pressure in nature to fill every possible niche suggests that there are likely to be higher organisms than man elsewhere in the Universe.

Whether it will ever be possible to contact them, whether it would be in our interest to contact them, is hard to say. They may well be too wise to wish to contact us. The discoveries of Christopher Columbus removed the barriers which had kept the continents apart, in the same way as the distances of space have so far kept the life forms of different star systems apart. Meeting more technically advanced civilisation proved to be destructive of the native cultures and populations of America and Australia. It might not be good for mankind.

No doubt mankind will continue to try to contact the other intelligent life forms which may exist in the Universe. One of our species' characteristics is that we are techno-crazy, and have little or no capacity to refrain from scientific discoveries once we see that they are possible. However, there may well be advanced life forms which could have contacted us if they had decided to do so. Some people think that they have already done so, by way of UFOs or crop circles. If they have refrained, they may have thought their advanced civilisation would be damaging to our present state of barbarism. As a species, we may need the experience of childhood if we are ever to become adult. Or these advanced beings may at some point feel forced to intervene to save us from the technological self-destruction which is one of the possibilities of the next millennium.

The Mars discovery confirms Pope's splendid intuition, which he shared with Berkeley: "See, through this air, this ocean and this earth, / All nature quick, and bursting into birth." It extends this principle of life to the "continuously creative nature of reality". It does not prove that this is, as Pope, Berkeley, Bergson, and William James believed, a spiritual force, rather than the random selective mechanism in which the neo-Darwinists believe. My own feeling is that we should know if we were machines, if only because generations of selection would have made for greater uniformity. The world would be a smoother place. The extraordinary thing about nature, including human nature, is the proliferation of forms beyond apparent necessity.

A few weeks ago, I bought a couple of William James manuscripts, a letter and a postcard which he wrote to Laurence Jacks, the editor of the *Hibbert Journal*, to which he contributed. The postcard, dated May 10, 1910, was written from Paris, where other letters show that James was seriously ill with heart trouble; he died only three months later. It contains one striking phrase: "The irrationality and excessivity in some places with insufficiency in others which *God's* handiwork shows."

Plato believed that the demi-urge which made the Universe worked on the principle that if anything could be created, it ought to be. Berkeley believed in a spirit or invisible fire with a continuous creative function throughout the universe. Bergson called that the *élan vital*. Christians have sometimes believed that this power was God, or that it was an attribute of God. William James, in his last months, was struck by the irregularity of its operation. Mars, which seems to be an abandoned laboratory of life, fits in with all these ideas. If we look at the Universe as the new discovery suggests it may be, we shall probably be nearer the truth if we choose to be neo-Platonists rather than neo-Darwinists.

Thumb period

THE TIMES DIARY

CAMBRIDGESHIRE police have been called in to help with the authentication of a drawing which its owner claims is by Picasso. Mark Harris, a Brighton based dealer and *soi-disant* art historian, bought the drawing six years ago in Ealing from a flat once owned by a Pole who claimed to be Picasso's illegitimate daughter.

His long struggle to have it declared an original has now taken him to the Cambridge Constabulary Fingerprint Bureau and their crack finger man, Martin Leadbetter. Now Leadbetter is concentrating on a fingerprint next to a Picasso signature on the drawing.

"Scholars won't tell you anything," says Harris. "Some try to rubbish it. I've had a number of letters from Picasso's son, saying I'm in danger of the gravest consequences should I put it on the market."

Harris now needs an original document with Picasso's thumbprint, but says neither the Tate nor the Picasso estate is playing ball. He thinks that they both fear that if his drawing were authenticated, many more would emerge, so diluting the highly lucrative Picasso market.

Leadbetter says it makes a difference from stolen car radios. "You can see the right thumb print with the naked eye," he says. "It's a detective story in its own right."

● *Adding to Dorset's rustic cacophony recently have been the strains of* Serenading Auntie, *a cassette rumoured to increase the milk yields of dairy herds. According to my man by the churns, the cows enjoy the music so much that they have eaten two copies of the tape. To put off the rogue chompers, he has bought a CD instead.*

Dab man, Leadbetter

All change

PEACE in the former Yugoslavia has its dividend for Lowe Bell, the PR company headed by Sir Tim Bell. It has recently been advising NatWest, which is helping to reschedule the international debt of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, the rump state consisting of Serbia and Montenegro.

Bell-watchers, however, recall that in 1992 he was close to Crown Prince Alexander of Yugoslavia, advising him on how best to promote his image back home with an eye on a restored monarchy. Bell was widely suspected to be the hand behind the Crown Prince's 1992 visit to Belgrade, which came complete with crying peasants and martial music.

● *As Britannia* left Cowes for the last time yesterday, one figure was missing from the deck. Sophie Rhys-Jones, who has been staying aboard the Royal Yacht for the last few days, missed its departure at 9.00am by less than an hour. She had to leave at 8.15am to attend a charity do in Coventry. On her arrival there, she said: "I felt like the Milk Tray man getting off the boat. The water was very choppy, the barge was a very rough ride."

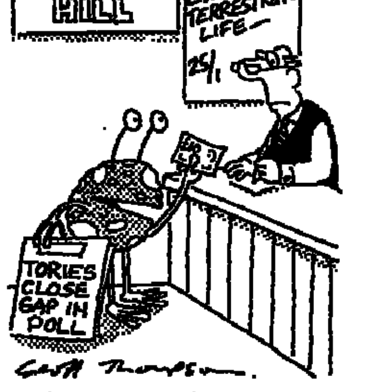
Royal pardon

NEWS reaches me of an embarrassing incident during Prince Michael of Kent's presentation of the Queen's Cup at Cowes Week. Fluent in Russian, the Prince spurted out the language as if it were his mother tongue when introduced to the skipper of the Russian boat. But his words fell on deaf ears. The skipper curled his face up and in perfect English inquired: "What language is that?" Unfortunately for the Prince, he was talking to a Frenchman, Pierre Fehlmann, chairman of the Grand Mistral race, who was standing in for the Russian skipper.

Acting up

AS Arnold Schwarzenegger's inflated frame landed in London for the première of his new film *Eraser* yesterday, there was talk of an intriguing new collaboration for his next project. It is believed that negotiations are under way for him to star in a Second World War drama, *With Wings of Eagles*, under the direction of Lord Attenborough.

Neither Attenborough's camp nor Paramount Films will comment on the project, in which Schwarzenegger will play a German officer who refuses to kill prisoners. It all sounds surprisingly bloodless for the Terminator, but right up the street of Attenborough, who started his directorial career with the anti-war polemic *Oh What a Lovely War!*



"A tenner on the Tories to win the election"

Eventful

SOCIAL rather than equestrian competition is dominating the Dublin Horse Show. Tomorrow night three different balls will jostle to be best. The intensity of the contest between the 62-year-old Louth Ball and two newcomers is an indication of the show's reinvigorated prestige. After years in the doldrums, it is regaining the cachet which once made the Irish equivalent of Henley or Goodwood.

The Horse Show opened at the Royal Dublin Society in Ballsbridge yesterday, to the dark mutters of stalwarts who have been attending show balls for aeons. They accuse the arrivistes of being corporate hangers-on who have read too much Jilly Cooper and sit a touch too softly in the saddle.

Haya Bint Al Husain

The prize guest will undoubtedly be Jordan's first ever entrant, Her Royal Highness Haya Bint Al Husain, daughter of King Husain, who will be riding Quid Pro Quo and Someday.

P·H·S

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SIGNAL FROM SPACE

Man may not be as alone in the Universe as he thought

The immensity of the heavens has always made man feel small. "The eternal silence of these infinite spaces terrifies me" said Blaise Pascal, and the sentiment has not diminished since we discovered that space is even vaster and emptier than Pascal imagined. So large an ocean, so small a ship: humanity's voyage has seemed to offer little prospect of companionship.

From today such ideas are obsolete. American scientists believe they have the evidence to prove that life is not the sole creation of the Earth but that it also evolved independently on Mars. The arguments they presented in a Washington press conference last night need careful analysis but if proved right will be among the most significant of this century, or any other. For they show what sober analysts have long believed, that mankind is not alone in the Universe. Pascal's infinite spaces may contain an infinite number of other civilisations, sufficient to satisfy every taste.

Once the idea of a benevolent Creator is abandoned, such conclusions are mathematically inevitable. If life emerged from the primaeval soup by a series of steps that turned chemistry into biology, molecules into proteins, and single-celled amoebas into Einstein, there is no reason to suppose that the process was unique to our planet. There are a hundred billion stars in our own galaxy, the Milky Way, and a billion more galaxies lying beyond it, so the odds have always favoured life emerging somewhere else. The recent discovery of planets in orbit around some of those stars, though not unexpected, has sharpened the sense of inevitability.

Some sceptics remain. When this argument was put to the Italian physicist Enrico Fermi, he responded: "OK, but where is everybody?" If the Universe teems with life, why is it that we still remain ignorant of our fellows from other worlds? The answer given by proponents is that we have only just begun to listen. Given the laws of physics, actually visiting distant stars is likely to prove impossible, but communicating with them is a practicable proposition. The first attempts to search for extra-terrestrial intelligence date back only a few decades, and nothing significant has yet been heard. But this proves nothing.

On the evidence presented yesterday, the form of life that evolved on Mars was never competent to send any signals anyway. Each step in the evolution of life requires the right environment and that of Mars was appropriate only for the very first stages. Life emerged there, perhaps, but was snuffed out before it could develop into higher organisms. Logically, there may be hundreds or thousands of planets that fall into this category for every one that turns into an Earth and produces intelligent life; but the mere fact that the first few faltering steps had been taken on Mars would increase the chances that other planets will have gone all the way.

Great scientific developments seldom spring fully-formed into the world, but rather creep out piecemeal. Only in retrospect is it usually possible to identify a turning point; even the greatest discoveries, such as nuclear fission or the structure of DNA, take a few years to make their importance felt. The discovery of life on Mars — if so it proves — could well be an exception. To those raised on the little green monsters of science fiction, the grainy pictures and complex arguments presented by the Nasa team are likely to come as a disappointment. They are not quite what we have been led to expect. But the temptation to dismiss the claims on that account should be resisted; these tiny fragments from the red planet may be the harbingers of discoveries that will profoundly alter our perceptions of the Universe and our place in it.

THE GUNS OF GROZNY

Chechen rebels set out to spoil Yeltsin's inaugural celebrations

President Yeltsin has described the war in Chechenia as "Russia's biggest problem". On the eve of his ceremonial inauguration tomorrow, the Chechen rebels have driven home in the most dramatic, and therefore most humiliating, fashion the political hazards of letting it drift. On Tuesday, for the second time in five months, Chechen fighters stormed into the heart of the capital, Grozny, where they have surrounded the buildings housing the widely detested pro-Russian administration of Doku Zavgayev. Yet again, they appear to have caught the Russian command off guard — even though their Trojan Horse strategy of infiltrating the city as civilians and heading for preplaced munitions caches was so little a secret to Grozny's remaining civilian population that many of them left town last week.

The Chechen forces cannot hold Grozny for long and do not expect to. They do not need to, because by holding up to ridicule the boasts of Russian commanders that the rebels are finished as an organised fighting force, they have made their political point. They have also reminded Russians that the poor intelligence, fighting capability, discipline and morale of Russian forces in Chechenia remain, after all these months, astonishingly far from being remedied. Their avowed aim is to get Moscow back to the negotiating table. Encouragingly, Aleksandr Lebed, Mr Yeltsin's security chief, appeared yesterday to have taken the point.

If Moscow puts sufficient energy and imagination into negotiation, there is more chance of progress than there was in the lifetime of Dzhokhar Dudayev, the Chechen leader who launched the rebellion. His successor, Zelimkhin Yandarbayev, is a good deal more pragmatic, as is the relatively moderate Chechen military commander, Aslan Maskhadov. Moscow for its part is genuinely desperate for a solution and has been trawling through every international precedent — even talking, somewhat improbably, about a "Puerto Rican" solution — that would preserve the façade of sovereignty and some essential element of strategic control.

Russia will not grant independence and the rebels refuse to be part of Russia. The trick is to establish a lasting truce while searching for a formula that enables both sides to emerge with some honour. But neither side agrees on where to start.

A deal was reached in Nazran on June 10 with the aid of Tim Guldimann, the dynamic Swiss who heads the Chechenia mission of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe. It gave Mr Yeltsin something to show Russians before the first round of the presidential elections. But it collapsed days after the second round. This was no surprise; its targets for "demilitarising" Chechenia were patently unrealistic. The "peace convoy" of negotiators was attacked as it returned to Grozny and both Russian and Chechen forces all but ignored it.

Mr Lebed, a constant critic of the war from the sidelines, is under corresponding pressure to end it. He has called for a congress of representatives from all over Chechenia, including religious as well as political leaders. That could be the first step towards sidelining the hated Mr Zavgayev, in favour of an acceptable Chechen figurehead. But it is also uncomfortably reminiscent of abortive Russian attempts to find an "internal" solution, short of withdrawing its troops, to the war in Afghanistan. The very fact that the purpose of this week's raid on Grozny was claimed to be political hints at a new flexibility. But it will be a long haul.

HARD CHOICES

Debate on abortion is difficult, but necessary

When private dilemmas become public property the individual at the centre rarely benefits. The young woman bearing twins whose decision to abort one foetus has touched the nation's conscience will have suffered difficulties enough without her position becoming a matter of general debate. It is to be hoped that she, and her child, will suffer no greater scrutiny than has so far been thrust on them. The manner in which her case was brought to wider attention reflects badly on the doctor, Professor Phillip Bennet, in whom she placed her trust. But it has prompted a bracing re-evaluation of difficult questions.

No abortion is ever undertaken lightly. The 1967 Abortion Act was tightly framed to limit suffering, and balance wrongs. Before any abortion can be granted two doctors must agree that the physical or mental health of a mother or any of her children would be put at risk if the operation did not take place. As time has passed, morals have changed and technology has altered. The criteria set down in 1967 have come to be interpreted more flexibly. But there has been a broad presumption that NHS doctors would consent to abortions only if their refusal would result in significant harm. Of course, private clinics have been prepared to conduct abortions in the right circumstances as a last resort for those with the resources.

There has always been an element of iniquity in the thought that delicate moral decisions can be influenced by economic considerations. And that is one of the reasons why this week's case has provoked such a reaction. That the straitened circumstances of the mother should dictate that one twin be aborted while the other lives provokes deep unease. The attempts by anti-abortion activists to influence the mother by offering her money was not, in itself, objectionable but it did jar with many because it reinforced the impression that human life was being traded like a commodity. That the decision had already been taken only made it more poignant.

There are specific difficulties in the case publicised this week. The surviving twin will be a living reminder for the mother of what has been lost and may itself suffer trauma. Set against that, the burden to a single mother of bringing up two new babies alongside an older child could considerably strain her capacity to provide the best care. Adoption or fostering may seem attractive alternatives but neither is without emotional cost.

Nothing is served by condemnation; and no guide to action can be framed for every circumstance. But some lessons may be drawn from this case. However well-intentioned, it is dangerous to conduct debates on medical ethics by reference to current patients. However pressing the material circumstances, they should not distort medical decisions. And, however passionate campaigners feel, their energies are best directed at encouraging prior restraint, and providing comfort for those who do not heed them.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Individual freedoms and the ownership of handguns

From Mr Paul Pearce-Kelly

Sir, Although respecting Magnus Linklater's measured response to the public outrage at the Home Affairs Select Committee's rejection of a ban on handgun ownership ("Tears must not blind our MPs", August 1), I stand full-square behind the parents of the Dunblane victims in their demand for the Government to bring into law a total ban on the civilian ownership of such weapons.

We were assured by the Government that sufficient control measures were in place after Hungerford. Subsequent events have tragically illustrated just how empty those assurances were.

We must face the fact that the only way of preventing the next gun-related outrage is physically to remove as many of these weapons from our society as is humanly possible. Mr Linklater's concern that such a ban would drive gun-ownership "underground" says little for the character of the 57,000 registered gun-owners in question.

I feel it is also right to ban the possession of replica weapons, which are increasingly being used, even by children, in crime. Victims threatened with these replicas can be as traumatised by them as by real weapons.

Yours sincerely,
P. PEARCE-KELLY,
31 Feltham Road, Ashford, Middlesex.
August 1.

From Mr Clive Howell

Sir, In oral evidence before the Home Affairs Select Committee taken in public just before the Cullen inquiry opened, the President of the Association of Chief Police Officers (ACPO), Sir James Sharples, accepted as accurate an estimate that 96 per cent of firearms used in crime had never been licensed.

He made it clear that the real problem lay with illegally held firearms, that further restrictions on legitimate shooters could not be expected to have any significant impact on the use of firearms in crime, that thefts of firearms usually take place in the course of theft of other property, and that there is no evidence that firearms are targeted.

Sir James, until recently the chairman of the ACPO group concerned with firearms and armed crime, can be expected to know what he is talking about.

Would somebody therefore please explain to me why owners of legally held firearms are continually pilloried, and how armed crime will disappear if such owners are deprived of their possessions?

Yours faithfully,
CLIVE HOWELL,
102 Downlands Way, South Wonston,
Winchester, Hampshire.
August 1.

From Mr Stephen Mulliner

Sir, The furore over the Home Affairs Select Committee report on handgun ownership may be sincere but much of it, in my opinion, is also hysterical and dangerous. The manner in which democratic decisions are reached is important, particularly where long-standing individual rights are to be curtailed. It is wrong for Parliament to be seen to be steam-rollered by the mob.

I do not own a handgun and have no wish to do so. However, if law-abiding citizens are to lose certain freedoms, common sense as well as justice requires that their concerns should be heard with respect. If the rights of 57,000 people, the great majority of whom are the epitome of respectability, are to be sacrificed, let it be on the altar of reason. Waiting for the outcome of the Cullen inquiry is essential.

The silence of the civil liberties lobby is deafening. I believe that the liberal elite is, on this issue, giving uncritical endorsement of "majority opinion", which it so firmly rejects in relation to capital punishment and homosexuality.

Yours faithfully,
STEPHEN MULLINER,
Witherden,
Weydown Road, Haslemere, Surrey.
August 1.

From Mr Walter Sweeney, MP for Vale of Glamorgan (Conservative)

Sir, As a member of the Home Affairs Select Committee on handguns, I was surprised and disappointed that on August 1 you and other media gave extensive coverage to our report, which is not due to be published until August 13. The details provided must therefore be based on a leak or speculation, rather than on the actual contents of a published report.

Your characterisation of me and the other Conservative members of the committee as "rebels" shows a misunderstanding of the role and nature of select committees of the House of Commons.

Members of these committees are not under any political Whip; they are expected to take evidence, weigh that evidence and present their conclusions without fear or favour. They normally try to reach a unanimous conclusion, but it is not unusual for minority views to be expressed.

Sometimes such divisions happen to be on party lines, but they may also be on cross-party lines, or even confined to an individual. I resent the implication that any of our members were excessively influenced by either the gun lobby, the anti-gun lobby or any party-political pressure.

Yours faithfully,
WALTER SWEENEY,
House of Commons.
August 2.

Thoughts on changes to character of our constitution

From Mr Richard FitzGerald

Sir, What a joy to read Alice Thomson's thoughtful and sensible article on the proposed reform of the Lords ("It's not the peers who need reform", July 27).

Too many people — in both the political and domestic domains — react to this issue with a kind of blind instinct. If the Upper House is working, and evidence certainly seems to suggest that it is, then why replace it with something that will suffer all the weaknesses that the Commons currently endures?

The Lords is accused of being outdated, anachronistic, undemocratic — yet its work is invaluable: and it is clear that both hereditary and life peers pull their weight.

Moreover, at a time when party leaders are demanding (and enforcing) absolute obedience from their cohorts in the Commons, it is very refreshing to see people swayed by argument and debate and thought — as so often happens in the House of Lords.

More people should query the need for reform along the lines of Ms Thomson's excellent article. If the politicians won't defend our institutions, then perhaps the fourth estate will.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant,
RICHARD FitzGERALD,
Vine Cottage, Houghton,
Nr Stockbridge, Hampshire.
August 1.

From Mr Richard Bacon

Sir, Mary Ann Sieghart ("Reform is the key to survival", July 31) is right that predictions of dire consequences from constitutional change have often been unfounded. However, people must not assume that all change is therefore acceptable.

Conservatives must continue to warn the public that proposals for a new Bill of Rights, advanced by both main opposition parties, would shift power from elected politicians to unelected judges and lead to an increasingly politicised judiciary.

As indicated by your leading article, "In the dock" (also July 31), members of the judiciary have given the public no reason to suppose that they should be granted more power.

Yours faithfully,
RICHARD BACON
(Conservative Prospective
Parliamentary Candidate, Vauxhall),
86 Gloucester Street, SW1.
August 1.

From Mr Michael R. Bond

Sir, The greatest strength of the House of Lords is the independence which arises from the fact that, once there, only death can remove a peer. It is this feature which the Americans adopted for their Supreme Court; and there over the years it has proved its worth, as political placemen, once they realised they were no longer dependent on political patronage, revealed their true characters.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL R. BOND,
119 High Street,
Chesterton, Cambridge.
August 1.

Catholics and Queen

From Dr William Oddie

Sir, Your report of July 25, "Catholic paper airs doubts on the Queen", stated that I am known not only for having "allied" myself "closely with the conservative wing of the Catholic Church" but also for my "extreme views" — as though this might explain why I should write as I have done about the Queen's attitude to the divorce of the Prince and Princess of Wales (letters, July 27, 31).

On the contrary, I have received the support of too many middle-of-the-road Anglicans as well as Roman Catholics for this to be an adequate explanation, even if it were true. My views are those of a mainstream modern Catholic who accepts the teachings of the Second Vatican Council, and I challenge anybody to cite a single example of my adopting an "extreme" Catholic position.

In a secularised world, of course, simply to state a Catholic view on almost anything as though one believes it to be true is bound to be provocative: perhaps this is what is meant by "extreme views".

Yours sincerely,
WILLIAM ODDIE,
6 Sunningwell Road, Oxford.
August 1.

Liszt variation

From Mr C. K. Hargreaves

Sir, Had Franz Liszt really died in 1866, as stated in "On this Day" today, we would have been deprived of a legacy of some stunningly original works, particularly for piano, written by this still very underrated composer in his later years.

However, fortunately for us, Liszt did not die until July 31, 1886, at the age of 74.

Yours faithfully,
C. K. HARGREAVES,
Spencer Lodge,
Back Lane,
Capel Brampton, Northampton.
August 2.

Business letters, page 27

Training for the arts

From Mr Patrick Allan

Sir, The Government does not consider the performing arts a mainstream profession. Yesterday Virginia Bottomley announced lottery support to give schoolchildren exposure to the performing arts, yet confirmed that those wanting to train in the field will not be helped (report, July 31).

Theatre and dance represent crucial contributors to our vital tourism industry — yet training in these areas, unlike "normal" professions, only merits a *discretionary* local authority grant. Given the current pressure on funds this usually means no cash is available.

I have to declare an interest: I advise several of the UK's leading dancers on their careers. Most of these received training grants in the good old days when local authorities were properly funded. Today's dancers in training normally have to fund themselves. I do not know where the next generation of dancers will come from.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK ALLAN,
75 Stirling Court, W1.
July 31.

£15m Shearer deal

From Mr J. R. Simons

Sir, Mr Jon Scott (letter, August 3) asks if he has missed something. I think he has.

Unlike the footballer Alan Shearer, whose pay and benefits are determined by his employers, directors of major industries, like MPs, are trustees for those they represent; as such they should not be able to determine their own remuneration. If the latter were subject to effective scrutiny by *all* those they represent there would be no cause for complaint and the "fat cat" label would disappear.

Yours faithfully,
J. R. SIMONS,
Vivary Gate,
27 Mount Street, Taunton, Somerset.
August 5.

From Mr Patrick Higham

Sir, There is a difference between the "fat cats" from the privatised monopolies on the one hand and footballers and musicians on the other.

I can choose to watch or not watch football, I can choose whether to buy a particular song, I can choose whether to watch television; but I cannot choose between different utility companies, I do not regard water, gas or electricity as luxuries, and those companies have a captive market.

Alan Shearer's transfer fee was settled on the open market, with a number of other football clubs also interested in him; musicians such as Elton John only receive their money if people buy their records. How many companies in this country, or indeed around the world, were after Cedric Brown?

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK HIGHAM,
6 Randolph Close, Cobham, Surrey.
August 5.

A happy ending?

From Mr Nicholas Reed

Sir, It is excellent news that a museum of children's literature is now planned for this country (report, August 3). It would be a shame however if it focused, as your report says, on postwar children's fiction. Kenneth Grahame, whom you mention, is of course far earlier (1859-1932), and though his manuscripts have gone abroad those of his near-contemporary Edith Nesbit (1858-1924) are mainly still here in private hands.

Nesbit, best-known as the author of *The Railway Children*, still has most of her 12 books in print, 70 years after her death. Her books, unlike Grahame's, were among the first to be written from the child's standpoint, laughing with them rather than at them. Yet they are still as enjoyable for adults as for children, as Noel Coward and Joyce Grenfell appreciated. Any of her manuscripts could take pride of place in such a museum.

Yours truly,
NICHOLAS REED
(Chairman, Edith Nesbit Society),
1 Dover House, Maple Road, SE20.
August 4.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.

Can zoos help save wild animal lives?

From Sir Christopher Lever

Sir, Colin Tudge ("Captive breeding is their only hope", July 29) argues for the captive breeding of threatened animals in zoos.

To suggest that the world's increasing human population could level out in the next century, and might even begin to fall back to present levels in the next 500 to 1,000 years, is mere speculation; and to suggest that our task in the third millennium should be to help threatened species through this "demographic winter" by captive breeding, with the intention of re-establishing them in the wild 500 to 1,000 years hence, is pure fantasy.

Mr Tudge states that "populations of wild animals cannot survive unless they contain at least 500 individuals". This is simply untrue. There are numerous examples of species that have survived in the wild for many years with very much smaller populations. Nor is it true that "we cannot say how much it costs to keep rhinos safely in the wild, because this has not yet been done". There are a number of sanctuaries in Africa in which both black and white rhinos have bred successfully, and for which detailed costings are available.

Zoos and their protagonists attempt to justify their existence by extravagant claims of reintroducing captive bred species to the wild, but most zoos have a very poor record in this respect. Of the 5,929 species listed in the 1994 IUCN (World Conservation Union) *Red List of Threatened Animals*, only a very few have been bred in zoos, and of these only a tiny fraction have been successfully reintroduced to the wild.

A far more practical solution to the problem of threatened species is the conservation of wild habitats and the animals they contain. One of the best ways of achieving this is by CAMPFIRE (Communal Area Management Programmes for Indigenous Resources) projects, such as those in Zimbabwe, whereby local rural communities are encouraged to regard wild animals as a cash-generation resource to be protected from poaching, human encroachment and agricultural development alike.

Yours faithfully,
CHRISTOPHER LEVER,
Newell House, Winkfield, Berkshire.
August 5.

After Atlanta

From Miss Rachel Carruthers

Sir, I am not in favour of government funds supporting athletes (letters, August 1, 2, 6): there are many other more pressing domestic needs. I would therefore ask Baroness Chalker to review our overseas aid allocations and perhaps reconsider that destined for countries which hitherto have justifiably attracted our support but choose to fund their athletes as a priority ahead of other more fundamental tasks.

Britain's poor sporting performance is certainly not a national crisis requiring government intervention. Goodness, there are numerous truly critical matters, the lamentable consequence of which can be laid at this Government's door.

Yours faithfully,
RACHEL CARRUTHERS,
241 Botley Road, Ley Hill,
Chesham, Buckinghamshire.
August 6.

From Mrs S. M. Rose

Sir, Might I suggest a break from tradition? Instead of lambasting the British Olympic team for the medals they did not win at Atlanta, let us instead congratulate them on the medals they did win and thank them for the sheer guts, determination and effort it took all the team to make it to the Olympics in the first place.

Yours faithfully,
S. ROSE,
12a Little Roodee,
Havarden, Flintshire.
August 5.

Cabbies' hours

From Mr Kenneth Peter, FCIT

Sir, Mr Peter Gibson (letter, August 2) gives self-employment as a reason why licensed taxi-drivers are not subject to any restrictions on drivers' hours.

A sizeable number of the many hundreds of thousands of licensed lorry and bus drivers are also self-employed. They are subject to the same drivers' hours and records requirements as their wage-earning colleagues.

There may well be good reasons why cabbies are exempt from such requirements, but surely self-employment cannot be one of them?

Yours faithfully,
K. PETER
(Traffic Commissioner, 1976-86),
Westgate Cottage, High Street,
Thornham, Hunstanton, Norfolk.
August 2.

Yours, puzzled

From Mr Paul Downes

Sir, Is there a polite way, other than buying two copies or cutting it out of the paper, to dissuade house guests from attacking *The Times* crossword before the host gets a chance?

I am Sir, yours etc,
PAUL DOWNES,
Garstons, Heytesbury,
Wearminster, Wiltshire.
August 7.

COURT CIRCULAR

HM YACHT BRITANNIA
August 7: The Queen this afternoon travelled to Portsmouth and was received by Her Majesty's Lord-Lieutenant of Hampshire (Mrs Mary Fagan) and the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth (Councillor Mark Hancock).

Her Majesty afterwards embarked in *HMY Britannia* and, escorted by *HMS Battleaxe* (Commander Allan Adair RN), sailed for Scotland.

Today's royal engagements

The Duke of Edinburgh, Patron of the Outward Bound Trust, will visit Outward Bound Eskdale, Eskdale Green, Cumbria, at 10.10.

Dinner

Royal Over-Seas League
Mr Robert Newell, Director-General of the Royal Over-Seas League, was the host at a dinner held last night at Over-Seas House, St James's, to bid farewell to Mr Serge April, Deputy High Commissioner for Canada, and Mrs April.

Church of Scotland

Induction
The Rev Norman Drummond to Kilmuir with Stenscholl.

Translations
The Rev Alistair H. Gray from Garvald & Morham with Haddington West to Lochgilphead.

The Rev Barry Knight from Sandsting & Aithsting with Walls to Colvend Southwick & Kirkbean.

Retirements
The Rev John W.M. Cameron from Liberton, Edinburgh

The Rev W. James L. Galbraith from Kilchrenan & Dalavich with Muckairn.

The Rev James Heriot from Brightons.

The Rev John Scott from St Fillan's, Aberdour.

University news

Cambridge
Professor Keith Moffatt, 61, is to be director of the Isaac Newton Institute for mathematical sciences. He will take up his five-year appointment on October 1. He is a fellow of Trinity College and Professor of Mathematical Physics at the department of applied mathematics and theoretical physics. He succeeds Sir Michael Atiyah, the institute's first director.

Dr Noah Linden, assistant director, becomes deputy director on the same date and Dr Sandu Popescu becomes Hewlett-Packard senior research fellow.

King's College
Elected into fellowships:

John Butt, elected into a teaching fellowship in music from October 1.

Rebecca Bryony Hoyle, elected into an unofficial fellowship with teaching responsibilities in mathematics from October 1, 1996.

St John's College
Elected to a Fellowship and appointed Lecturer in Engineering from October 1, 1996:

Duncan Campbell McFarlane, BA Melbourne, PhD Queens'.

Elected to a Fellowship and appointed Lecturer in Law from January 1, 1997:

Christine Diana Gray, MA, PhD Newnham.

Latest wills

Recent estates include (net before tax):

Mr Norman Meyer **Murray**, of West Hill, London N6..... £856,390

Mr Hugh Edward **Newton**, of Henley on Thames, Oxon £706,447

Today's birthdays

Princess Beatrice of York is 8 years old today.

Professor Jack Baldwin, chemist, 58; Mr Keith Barron, actor, 52; Mr Dennis Canavan, MP, 54; Lord Chapple, 75; Dr Michael Clark, MP, 61; Viscount Combermere, 67; the Earl of Donoughmore, 69; Lord Hayhoe, 71; Mr Dustin Hoffman, actor, 59; Lieutenant-General Sir David House, 74; Professor Sir Laurence Hunter, chairman, Police Negotiating Board, 62; Mr P.H. Lapping, Headmaster, Sherborne School, Dorset, 55; Mr Nigel Mansell, racing driver, 43; Sir Alan Muir Wood, civil engineer, 75; Sir Patrick Neill, QC, former Vice-Chancellor, Oxford University, 70.

Professor Sir Roger Penrose, mathematician, 65; Miss Barbara Sonnentag, fashion designer, 34; Sir Neil Thorne, former MP, 64; Mr Bill Wigglesworth, former deputy director-general, Oftel, 59; Sir John Wood, former High Court judge, 74.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Jacques de Beauval, theologian, Rouen, 1653; Francis Hutcheson, philosopher, Armagh, 1694; William Bateson, biologist, Whitby, 1861; P.A.M. Dirac, physicist, Nobel laureate 1933, Bristol, 1902; Andy Warhol, painter, Pittsburgh, 1931.

DEATHS: Thomas à Kempis, theologian, Agnetenberg, The Netherlands, 1471; George Canning, Prime Minister 1827, London, 1827; Thomas Crofton Croker, antiquary, London, 1854; Lucia Mathews, (Mme Vestris), actress, London, 1856; Robert Moffat, missionary, Leigh, Surrey, 1883; Jacob Burckhardt, historian, Basle, 1897; Anton Denikin, commander of the anti-Bolshevik forces in the Russian Civil War 1918-20, Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1947; Nicholas Monsarrat, novelist, London, 1979.

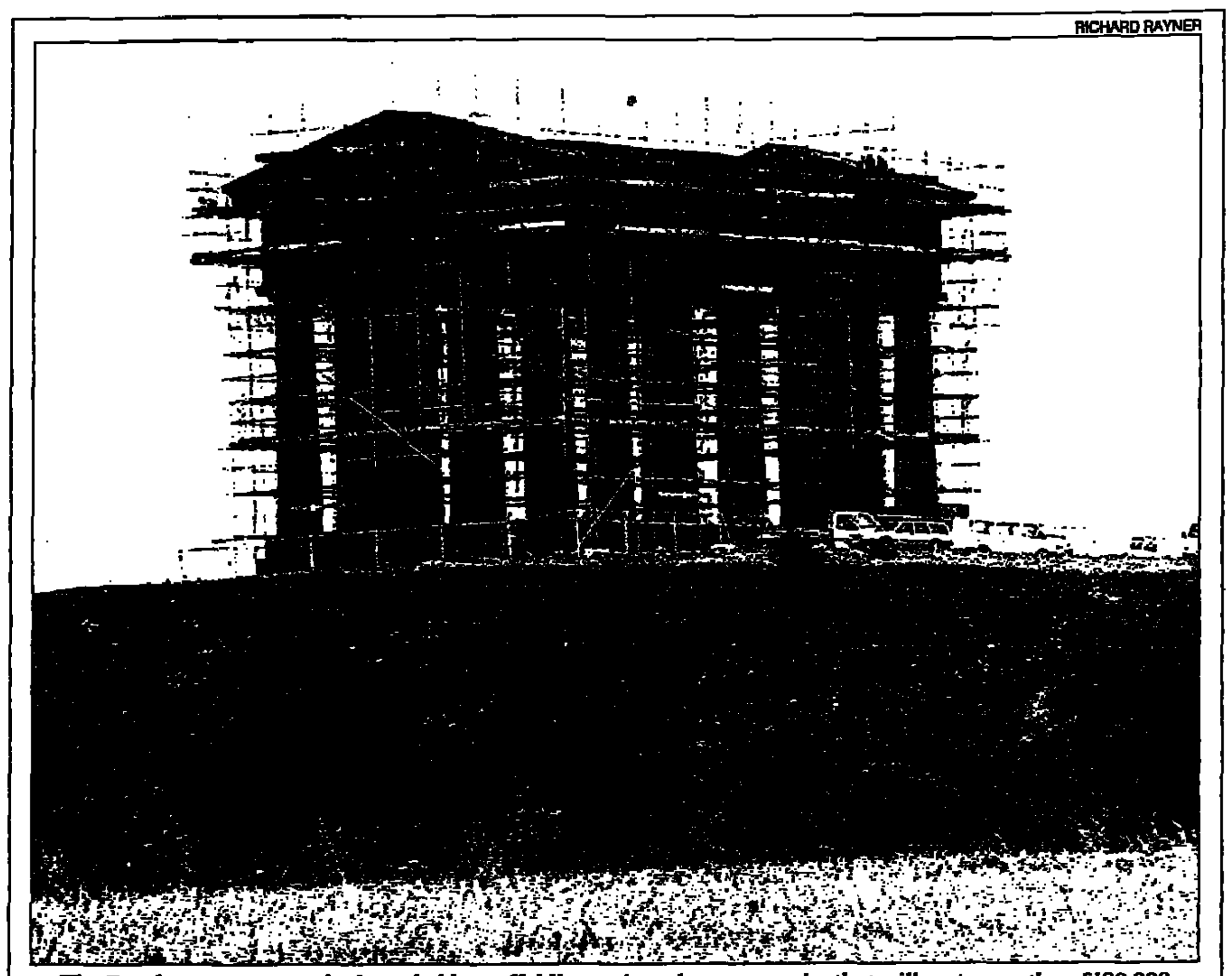
The English Poor Law Act was passed, 1834.

The Great Train Robbery — £2¼ million stolen from the Glasgow-London train at Cheddington, Buckinghamshire, 1963.

President Nixon resigned as a result of the Watergate affair, 1974.

John McCarthy was released from captivity in Beirut after 1,943 days, 1991.

RICHARD RAYNER



The Penshaw monument is shrouded in scaffolding as it undergoes repairs that will cost more than £100,000

Restored folly will stay a mucky monument

ONE of the most distinctive landmarks in the North East, the Penshaw monument at Sunderland, built as a tribute to the first Earl of Durham, is being re-pointed and strengthened.

But the rejuvenation of the monument, a folly built in classical doric style, will omit one important detail. The blackened surface of the stonework will not be cleaned. It is to remain as it is as a reminder of the area's tradition of heavy industry.

Nev Kirby, who is overseeing the work on behalf of the National Trust, said: "This work shows the enormous financial burden of maintaining National Trust properties. The Penshaw project is costing over £100,000 and yet we hope that the repairs will be invisible when the workmen leave.

"The original 19th century stonework and pointing has deteriorated because of the monument's exposed position. The columns and lintels have suffered and we are setting about the task of repairing them. The original cast iron cramps which reinforce the structure are over 150 years old and have rusted. As a result they have swollen in size, causing undue stresses on the stonework. We are replacing them with new stainless steel cramps bedded in lead."

Other remedial work includes re-pointing using lime mortar made from lime quarried at the National Trust's pits at Wallington, Co Durham.

The monument is on top of a hill above the village of Penshaw and overlooks the city of Sunderland. It was built as a tribute to the popular first Earl of Durham, John George Lambton, who died in 1840.

He served County Durham as a whig politician for 15 years and went on to become a diplomat in Russia and Governor-General of Canada.

The folly was built in 1844 as a double sized replica of a Greek temple.

The Leverhulme Trust

The trustees have approved the following awards to individuals under schemes administered by their research awards advisory committee:

Fellowships

D A Agius, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Arabic, University of Leeds, Ship-types in the Gulf: A historical linguistic enquiry.

M Arnot, PhD, Fellow, Jesus College, University of Cambridge, Education, gender and democratic citizenship.

M K Atack, PhD, Professor of French, University of Leeds, The cultural legacy of May 1968.

C Balim-Harding, PhD, Lecturer, University of Manchester, A reference grammar of modern literary Uzbek.

R Ballard, PhD, Lecturer, Department of Religions, University of Manchester, Reconceptualising race and ethnicity in Britain.

M C Barber, PhD, Professor of History, University of Reading, The Cathars.

T J C Beebee, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Biochemistry, University of Sussex, Molecular genetic analysis of European amphibian populations.

Alice Belcher, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of Dundee, Writing an innovative book on corporate rescue.

H J Blumenthal, PhD, Reader in Greek, University of Liverpool, A commentary of Plotinus, *Enneads* IV 3-5.

V M Bodman, MA (RCA), Senior Lecturer in Charge of Painting, University of Sunderland, The feminist grotesque, the sublime, a reconciliation.

B M Bolton, MA, Senior Lecturer in History, Queen Mary and Westfield College, University of London, The impact of Pope Innocent III's friendship network.

D D C Bradley, PhD, Professor of Physics, University of Sheffield, Organic electroluminescence: understanding and optimising device performance.

E K Cameron, DPhil, Reader in History, Newcastle University, The critique of superstition, 15th-17th centuries.

I Campbell, DPhil, Lecturer in Architecture Department, Edinburgh College of Art, Cataloguing the Dal Pozzo architectural drawings.

D Cesarani, DPhil, Professor of 20th Century European Jewish History and Culture, University of Southampton, Religion in public space; the London *eruv* controversy in comparative perspective.

W G R Clarence-Smith, PhD, Reader in the Economic History of Asia and Africa, School of Oriental and African Studies, Cocoa in world history since c.1860.

D E Cooper, BPhil, Professor of Philosophy, University of Durham, Limits of language: mysticism and its implications.

P J Cragg, PhD, Lecturer in Bioinorganic Chemistry, University of Brighton, Oxacalix(3)arenes as potential metalloenzyme models.

Pauline Croft, DPhil, Senior Lecturer, Royal Holloway, University of London, Robert Cecil; a political biography.

Caroline Dakers, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Cultural Studies, Central St Martins College of Art and Design, Artists and society: the Holland Park Circle, 1850-1900.

J P Donovan, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of York, Critical Edition of P B Shelley's *Laon and Cythna*.

C Emsley, MLitt, Professor of History, The Open University, Gendarmes and peasants in nineteenth-century Europe.

H Ferguson, PhD, Senior Lecturer in Sociology, University of Glasgow, Paul Ricoeur; mapping the human domain.

L Foxhall, PhD, Lecturer, School of Archaeological Studies, University of Leicester, Fruitful pleasures: ornamental horticulture in Ancient Greece.

E E Gregory, PhD, Reader in Educational Studies, Goldsmiths' College, University of London, Generations of reading in London's East End.

J A Guy, PhD, Provost, and Professor of Modern History, University of St Andrews, New Oxford History of England, 1461-1547.

A D Hadfield, DPhil, Lecturer in English Literature, University of Wales, Aberystwyth, Literature, travel and colonialism in the English Renaissance.

J D Harries, DPhil, Senior Lecturer in Ancient History, University of St Andrews, Imperial law and society in late antiquity.

D A Heald, BA, ACMA, Professor of Accountancy, University of Aberdeen, Options for public expenditure levels and compositions.

A F Hemingway, PhD, Reader in History of Art, University College, London, American artists and the Communist party, 1929-56.

P S Henley, PhD, Director, Granada Centre for Visual Anthropology, University of Manchester, Ethnographic film-making and qualitative social research.

A V Holden, PhD, Reader in General Physiology, University of Leeds, Constructing a computational integrative physiology.

G D Hook, MA, Professor of Japanese Studies, University of Sheffield, Japan's role in East Asian regional security.

A P Kerr, PhD, Senior Lecturer in French Studies, University of Reading, Alexis de Tocqueville's *Correspondence anglaise*, (Oeuvres completes tome VI.3).

C Macleod, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of Bristol, Concepts of invention in industrial Britain.

D Mannings, PhD, Senior Lecturer, University of Aberdeen, Sir Joshua Reynolds, catalogue of paintings.

M A Mazower, DPhil, Reader in History, University of Sussex, The war in Bosnia: a historical analysis.

A K McHardy, DPhil, Senior Lecturer, University of Nottingham, Crown and church in late medieval England.

G A Morris, DPhil, Reader in Chemistry, University of Manchester, New NMR methods for mixture analysis.

G Pollock, PhD, Professor of Social and Critical Histories of Art, University of Leeds, Mary Cassatt and her contemporaries: feminity, modernity.

A C Pont, DSc, Independent Dipterist, Studies on Arctic flies in Northern Sweden.

Jonathan Rée, BLitt, Lecturer in Philosophy, Middlesex University, The Englishness of English Philosophy: a History.

A J Rothwell, DPhil, Senior Lecturer in French, University of Leeds, The writings of Bernard Noël.

I Schoon, PhD, Lecturer, Social Statistics Research Unit, City University, On the realisation of scientific talent.

J C Shapiro, PhD, Senior Lecturer, Goldsmiths' College, University of London, Russia's present mortality crisis.

C C Smart, PhD, Professor of Sociology, University of Leeds, Forgotten aspects of childhood: redefining sexual abuse.

Details of the rest of the Leverhulme Trust awards will be published as soon as possible

Church news

Appointments

The Rev Maureen Alderson, Assistant Curate (NSM), St Cyprian, Hay Mills: to be Priest-in-charge, St Cyprian, Hay Mills (Birmingham).

The Rev John Ashe, Vicar, Godalming: now *also* Rural Dean of Godalming (Guildford).

The Rev Joan Ashton, Assistant Curate, Hillsborough and Wadsley Bridge, Sheffield: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary's, Stainforth, Doncaster (Sheffield).

The Rev Margaret Barsley, NSM, St Thomas, Boston, Skirbeck Quarter: to be Priest-in-charge, St Mary, Swineshead (Lincoln).

The Rev Stan Bindoff, Chaplain to HM Prison, Frankland (Durham): to be Chaplain, HM Young Offenders Institution, Deerbolt (Ripon).

The Rev Richard Blackburn, Vicar, Mosborough, Sheffield: to be *also* Rural Dean of Attercliffe (Sheffield).

The Rev Andrew Body, Team Rector, Redhorn (Salisbury): to be Vicar, St Lawrence, Chobham (Guildford).

The Rev Moira Davies, Assistant Curate, Walmer (Canterbury): to be Priest-in-charge, Somercotes and Grainthorpe w Conisholme (Lincoln).

Canon Alan Dawkins: to be Chaplain of St John's Hospital and Bursar of St John's and St Nicholas Hospitals (Canterbury).

The Rev Brian Dodds, Vicar, St John's, Gainsborough w Morton: now Rector, Walesby, Claxby w Normanby le Wold, Kermond le Mire w Stainton le Vale, Tealby, North Willingham (Lincoln).

The Rev Timothy Edge, Curate, Bedworth (Coventry): to be Team Vicar, Witney Team Ministry (Oxford).

Forthcoming marriages

**Mr A.C. Dickens
and Miss C.S.L. Weir**
The engagement is announced between Adrian, elder son of Mr and Mrs David Dickens, of Stoneygate, Leicester, and Catherine, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs David Weir, of Bottisham, Cambridge.

**Mr M.J. Evans
and Miss H.C. Daniels**
The engagement is announced between Mark, only son of Mr and Mrs J. Evans, of Kerswell, Devon, and Helen, daughter of Mr and Mrs J. Daniels, of Atherstone, Warwickshire.

**Mr J.B. Friend
and Miss E.J.R. Pollard**
The engagement is announced between Justin, only son of Mr and Mrs Michael Friend, of Milland, Hampshire, and Elizabeth Jane (Polly), only daughter of the late Mr Basil Pollard, MBE, and of Mrs Pollard, of Brightwell cum Sotwell, Oxfordshire.

**Mr J.M. Tarrant
and Miss C.K. Rooum**
The engagement is announced between John, son of Mr and Mrs Michael Tarrant, of Rugby, and Charlotte, daughter of Air Commodore and Mrs John Rooum, of S.H.A.P.E., Belgium.

Marriages

**Mr J.D. Hotchkiss
and Miss J.E. Goodwin**
The marriage took place at All Saints Church, Lawshall, Suffolk, on Saturday, July 20, between Mr John Devlin Hotchkiss, youngest son of Mr Barty Hotchkiss, of Chislehurst, Kent, and Mrs Audrey Hotchkiss, of Peasenhall, Suffolk, and Miss Julie Ellen Goodwin, daughter of Mr John Goodwin, of Thurston, Suffolk, and Mrs Wendy Harris, of Lawshall, Suffolk.

The bride was given away by Mr Trevor Harris.

**Mr B.E. Sewards
and Mrs C.D. Durose-Robson**
The marriage took place between Mr Barry E. Sewards, of Ticknall, and Mrs Carol D. Durose-Robson, of Ireton Wood Hall, Derbyshire, on August 3, at the Savoy, London.

Royal Commission for the Exhibition of 1851

The following awards are announced for 1996:

Industrial Fellowships:

A G Bloodworth, Howard Humphreys Consulting Engineers and University of Oxford
Design methods to limit damage to structures due to tunnelling.

M R Clinch, Luxfer Gas Cylinders and University of Nottingham
Understanding and controlling the effects of deformation in aluminium alloy cylinder materials.

L J Hartwell, Bede Scientific Instruments and University of Durham
Application of optical spectroscopy to the characterisation of novel materials.

M R Leggett, Devonport Management and University of Plymouth
Development and computer modelling of the Resin Infusion under Flexible Tooling (RIFT) Process.

A E Smith, Intelligent Manufacturing Systems and University of Oxford
To develop an improved system for non-intrusive inspection of food and other mass produced products.

Dr L J Wigley, Xenova and Imperial College
New protocols for the discovery of novel microbial compounds for pharmaceutical exploitation.

Industrial Design Studentships:

Miss G V Brill, Imperial College, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.

C B D Cooke, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College.

Miss A R C Humphries, University College, London, Royal College of Art/Imperial College

R J Leach, Imperial College, Royal College of Art/Imperial College

R H Luxton, University of Southampton, Royal College of Art/Imperial College

M W Middleton, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College

Miss L Parameswaran, University of Cambridge, Royal College of Art/Imperial College; I Roberts, University of Southampton, Royal College of Art/Imperial College

Research Fellowships:

P G Clute, University of Toronto, Canada, Cellular and Molecular Biology at Cambridge University

Dr D R S Cumming, Glasgow University, Physical Electronics at Glasgow University

Dr P C J Donoghue, Leicester University, Geology at Birmingham University

Dr R A W Dryfe, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne (Switzerland), Chemistry at University of Oxford.

Dr J S O Evans, Oregon State University, USA, Solid State Chemistry at Oxford University.

Miss L J Govenlock, University of Sydney, Australia, Organic Chemistry at Durham University.

Miss C E Gutteridge, Cambridge University, Organic Chemistry at Columbia University.

G J Rowlands, Imperial College, Organic Chemistry at Cambridge University.

Research Fellowship in the Built Environment:

Miss M Palmer

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I said to the prisoners, 'Go free', and to those in darkness, 'Come out into the open.' Along every path they will find pasture and grazing in all the arid places.
Isaiah 49 : 9 (REB)

BIRTHS

BACON - On August 1st 1996, at the Matilda Hospital, Hong Kong, to Joanna (née Green) and Gavin, a wonderful son, Thomas Dalrymple.

BRIANT - On July 30th, to Ruth (née de Iongh) and Julian, a son, a brother for Celia.

COLLINS - On July 26th 1996, to Caroline (née Braine) and Dominic, another daughter.

DIGHTON-HARRISON - On July 8th 1996, to Julie and Michael, a beautiful daughter, Georgia Rose.

FELLOWS - On 2nd August 1996, to Juliet (née Macaire) and Andrew, a daughter, Portia Juliet Rose, a sister for Olivia, Mark, George and Louis. A lovely completion to the family.

FRASER - To Lucinda and Simon, on 6th August, a son.

HARDIE - At Queen Mother's Hospital, Glasgow, on 5th August 1996, to Adam and Alex (née Waddell), a son, Rory Robert Donald.

HUGHES - On August 2nd, to Lucy (née Hoare) and Philip, a son, Henry Ralph, a brother for Polly.

LEACH CAMBANO - On 29th July in Paris, to Belen and Jeremy, a son, Daniel James Sebastian.

MURRAY BROWN - On 30th July, to Rose (née Blackett) and Robert, a son, a brother for Francis.

SALMON - On August 5th 1996, to Sally (née Spielman) and Andrew, a daughter, Jemima Amelia.

SOMERVILLE ROBERTS - On 3rd August, to Mi-Lau (née Romaqué) and Michael, the gift of a daughter, sister for Tom.

BIRTHS

THOMSON - Diana and Paul are proud to announce the arrival of their daughter Claire Georgina, born on July 29th in Johannesburg. (S.Africa).

MARRIAGES

FRANCZAK:KESSEL - On July 27th, 1996, at the Church of St John the Baptist in the Wilderness, Cragg Vale, West Yorkshire, Charles Franczak to Joanna Kessel.

MEYER:JARVIS - On Saturday August 3rd at Doddington Hall, Lincoln, between Leo Meyer, eldest son of Mrs Elizabeth Duncan Meyer and Mr Peter Meyer and Katherine Antonia Jarvis, youngest daughter of Antony and Victoria Jarvis.

WHITWORTH:TRIPOS - On 3rd August, 1996, at St John's Church, Helsington, Kendal, Andrew Allen, widower of Mollie, to Judith Virginia, née Ellicott, widow of Stamos, with the blessing of their children.

DEATHS

ARKLE - Of Gosforth, peacefully in hospital on August 6th aged 83 years. Joyce Marguerite (née Woodford). Dearly beloved mother of Ruth and Mary Ann and a much loved grandmother and great-grandmother. Service at West Avenue Methodist Church, Gosforth, on Tuesday 13th August at 12.45 pm, followed by private cremation at Newcastle Crematorium. Friends please meet at Church for Service.

DEATHS

CUMMINS-STANLEY - Francis Joseph of Islington, suddenly on August 5th 1996 at his brother's home in Halesowen, West Midlands. Requiem Mass at Lady of Lourdes, Old Hill, Monday August 12th at 10.30 am followed by cremation at Rowley Regis Crematorium.

DICKENS - On August 4th 1996 in a tragic accident Toby of Church Brampton, Northampton, aged 32 years. Funeral Service at The Parish Church of St Matthew, Northampton, on Monday August 12th 2 pm. All enquiries and donations for the Cancer Research Campaign to Ann Bonham & Son Funeral Directors, 71 St Giles Street, Northampton, NN1 1JF, tel: (01604) 34368.

DROOP - Peacefully on 6th August 1996 in her 76th year after a long illness Margarete Hildegard Siebel, Lochnell Lodge, Taynuilt, beloved wife of Michael and dear mother of Giles, Christopher and Stephen and a much loved grandmother.

DUNDAS-GRANT - On August 2nd quietly at home, Katharine Hermina (née Galloway) aged 95, widow of James, deeply mourned by her daughters Valerie and Deirdre, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. Service at Woking St John's Crematorium on August 19th at 3 pm. Family flowers only, donations if desired to the Marie Curie Cancer Care, c/o Cyril H. Lovegrove, 32 Guildford Road, Woking, Surrey GU22 7QQ.

DEATHS

JENKIN - Jeanette (née Casson), devoted wife of Graham and much loved mother of Tom, David and Emma, passed away peacefully at home, in Pinner on Saturday 3rd August. After a private funeral at the crematorium there will be a Service of Thanksgiving at Emmanuel Church, High Street, Northwood at 2.30 pm on Monday 12th August. Family flowers only, donations if desired to The Cancer Treatment and Research Trust, c/o T.A. Ellement & Son Ltd, 21 Bridge Street, Pinner, Middlesex, HA5 3HR.

KLEY - On 7th August 1996, two weeks short of his 93rd birthday, Henry, beloved husband of the late Lotte and father of Barbara and Peter. Service at Thornton Crematorium on Tuesday August 13th at 12 noon. No flowers please but if desired donations to the Imperial Cancer Research Fund.

LAMBERT - Michel Marcel Etienne, on 31st July tragically in France. Devoted husband of Tina and loving father to Bernard, Catherine, Christian and Daniel. He will be very sadly missed by his family and friends. Funeral Service on Wednesday 14th August at St Anthony's R/C Church, Pinehurst Road, West Moors, Ferndown, Dorset, at 11 am. Family flowers only, but if desired donations to Missionary Society of St Columbus c/o G.M. Luff, 84 Lion Lane, Haslemere, Surrey, GU27 1JH.

LEATHEM - Brian Rendle of Cape Town, peacefully in hospital on 1st August 1996 aged 87. A much loved uncle, respected and loved by friends.

DEATHS

MACLAY - Maisie Bazzie (née Mary Couper of Glasgow), loving wife of David and mother of James, Anne and Ian, on 4th August aged 88. Cremation on 14th August in Birmingham. Enquiries to V Morton & Sons (0121) 476-9111.

PORTAL - Viscountess Joan Margaret died 19th June 1996 - a private funeral service has been held.

POTTER - Edith Marianne, widow of Colonel L.W. Potter, South Lancashire Regiment, died peacefully in Durban House Nursing Home, Romsey, Tuesday 6th August 1996. Cremation at Southampton Crematorium Monday 12th August 1996 10.15 am. No flowers please.

SCHENK - Tragically on Sunday 4th August 1996 Graham, much loved son of Hazel and the late Dr. Hans Schenk. The coffin will be received into St Gregory and St Augustine's R.C. Church, Woodstock Road, Oxford. The funeral service will be held on Wednesday 14th August at 10 am. Cut flowers only please or donations if desired for The Catholic Children's Society c/o A.W. Bruce Funeral Directors, 29 Roger Street, Summertown, Oxford, OX2 7LS. (01865) 310907.

SPEEKS - Suddenly whilst in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. Timothy David, aged 33 years. Dearly beloved son of Rita Kathleen and the late John Louis. Dearest brother of Nicholas James, Simon John and Mark William. The Memorial Service will take place at St Peters Church, Thurleigh, Bedfordshire on Thursday 15th August at 2pm. All enquiries to A. Abbott & Sons Funeral Directors, Bedford Road, Rushden, Northants. (01933) 312142.

DEATHS

SPINDEL - Victor on August 6th 1996 aged 83, the loved and loving husband, father and grandfather of Elizabeth/Buffy, Daniel, Emma, Julia and Eliza. Funeral private. No flowers please but donations if you wish to Cancer Research.

STEVENSON - Douglas suddenly at home on 1st August aged 70. One-time a Corporate Vice President of ITT worldwide. Well loved husband and dearest friend of his wife Beryl, caring father of Rosemary, Ian and son-in-law David, devoted grandfather of Rachel and James. Funeral private.

STRAUSS - Peter Louis William of Hammersmith, London, on August 6th, died peacefully after a short illness aged 73. Husband of Virginia and father of Simon, Richard, Toby and Quentin. Funeral Service Mortlake Crematorium, London, on Tuesday August 13th at 1.30pm. No flowers please, donations if wished to Imperial Cancer Research Fund or Trinity Hospice, London c/o F.W. Paine, 468 Chiswick High Road, W4 5TT.

THOMSON - Margaret Monica Grosvenor, in Edinburgh on 4th August 1996, after a long battle bravely fought, Monica (née Grosvenor Stewart), beloved wife of Geoffrey, dearly loved mother of Angela and Barry and respected and loving Granny and Great-Granny. Private burial in Lasswade Cemetery, followed by a Thanksgiving Service at St John's Church, Dalkeith, at 2.45 pm on Monday 12th August 1996 to which all relatives and friends are invited.

DEATHS

THOMSON - Peter Champion, on Sunday August 4th at Felmingham Old Rectory Care Home, aged 80 years. Very dearly loved husband of Barbara, father of James, Robin and Richard and a much loved grandfather. Funeral Service at St Faith's Crematorium, Norwich, on Saturday August 10th at 1.30pm. Family flowers only please. Donations if desired for the Alzheimer's Disease Society.

VARLEY - Thomas Arthur, QSO, OBE, KPFSM, F.I.Fire E(Life), formerly Dominion Chief Fire Officer New Zealand, died at Waikanae aged 94 on August 6th peacefully after a courageous fight against cancer. Beloved husband of Evelyn (Effie) and much loved and respected father of Audrey, Derek, Brenda and David. A loving grandfather and great-grandfather. Funeral 12th August 11 am in Waikanae. Enquiries to Prosser, PO Box 300, Waikanae. A Memorial Service in England to be arranged.

MEMORIAL SERVICES

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OBITUARIES

RAYMOND O'MALLEY

Raymond O'Malley, University Lecturer in Education at Cambridge, 1961-76, died on July 25 aged 86. He was born on August 15, 1909.

ONE of the early pupils of F. R. Leavis at Cambridge, Raymond O'Malley was one of that committed group of educators for whom, in the celebrated words of Keats, "English ought to be kept up". Through teaching posts at Dartington Hall School before the war and at Cambridge after it, as well as through his work for *Scrutiny*, his membership of the editorial board of *The Use of English* and his own publications, he propagated the idea that the study of English and its literature was at the very heart of the civilising process. Like Leavis, he believed that English (as opposed to Classics) should be the cornerstone of university studies in this country.

He produced a number of works in harness with Denys Thompson, the founder of the periodical *The Use of English* (under its original title *English in Schools*). Yet one of his most interesting books, *One-Horse Farm* which appeared in 1949, had, ostensibly at least, nothing to do with the weightier preoccupations of the Leavis school of critics.

At the outbreak of war, because of his pacifism — always robustly expressed — O'Malley had to give up his teaching post at Dartington and, like many conscientious objectors, was ordered to work on the land, as an alternative to going to prison. This he chose not to do in the lush pasturelands of Devon; he elected instead to till a small croft in the Highlands of Scotland, at Achbeg near the Kyle of Lochalsh. Even by Highland standards, such a farm in a remote valley whose poor soil was often at the mercy of the torrential downpours which afflict the region was at the very margins of a region whose agriculture was, at best, at mere subsistence level.

One-Horse Farm recounts the story of how he and his first wife, Dorothy, whom he had married in 1936, triumphed over, first, their own ignorance and then the hostility of the elements and the hard-favoured land. Since the rugged terrain precluded the use of modern farm implements, tillage was achieved mainly by man or horse power. Hay and the cereal crop were mown with a scythe and the latter was threshed with a stick.

Yet, though *One-Horse Farm* is an apparently unvarnished account of the daily struggle for existence seen through O'Malley's eyes, the experience came to have a philosophical dimension, as the man of 20th-century sensibility and education accepted the challenge of plying a centuries-old mode of husbandry. The book gave rise to considerations of the value of modern technology and mass culture, and asked by implication whether they did not perhaps militate against the fundamental vitality of an older sensibility which was in closer touch with the roots of human thought and action.

Raymond O'Malley was of Irish parentage. His parents had settled in England in the early years of this century and he went to school in Brighton. He then went up to read English at Trinity College, Cambridge. At Cambridge he came under the influence of F. R. Leavis and took a first class degree.

Although with this qualification he might well have pursued an academic career within a university environment, he chose instead to become a schoolmaster and trained as an English teacher at London Day Training College. He then applied for a teaching post at Dartington Hall School, the progressive Devon educational establishment which was at that time in its early days. One of the other applicants for the post was W. H. Auden, but subsequent generations of Dartington Hall pupils always felt grateful to the headmaster, W. B. Curry, for his wisdom in choosing in O'Malley a man who was to become one of the school's most inspirational teachers.

In the meantime Leavis had recruited him to the pioneering literary periodical *Scrutiny*, to which he was to make such a contribution during the 1930s.

The quarterly journal *English in Schools* was founded by Denys Thompson in 1939 and in the following year O'Malley joined the editorial board, as did Boris Ford and David Holbrook. The magazine led a somewhat precarious life during the war years and was eventually taken over by the Bureau of Current Affairs in 1949 when it was renamed *The Use of English*. The war years were, anyway, a time of very different activity for O'Malley, who spent four years, in all, on his West Highland croft.

When the war was over he returned to his Dartington teaching post and he was for a time deputy and then acting headmaster of the school. At Dartington, his crofting experiences found their way into talks on crop rotation to geography and biology classes. Meanwhile, the manuscript of *One-Horse Farm*, "tried out" on some of his older pupils, demonstrated to them his concern for the survival of the organic community, thus bringing vividly to life their studies of authors such as D. H. Lawrence, and their reading of the critics of the *Scrutiny* school.

His first wife died suddenly, shortly after their return to Dartington. In 1949 he married, secondly, a musician Pamela Hind, who taught the cello on Imogen Holst's music courses.

In 1959 he went to lecture on education at Southampton University where he stayed for the next two years. In 1961 he was appointed University Lecturer in Education at Cambridge. He was also for the five years, 1972-77, Director of Studies in English at Selwyn College. He finally retired in 1976.

Following his book on his wartime crofting experiences, O'Malley began to publish in his chosen field, education and English. With Denys Thompson he published the five volumes of *English I-V* which appeared between 1955 and 1960. This was a new course book which encouraged the reading and understanding of literature through an innovative and imaginative selection of texts.

There was also the poetry anthology *Rhyme and Reason* (1957), also a joint venture with Thompson. This was notionally aimed at readers of 15 years and upwards, though O'Malley in fact disliked compartmentalising in this manner and never "talked down" to younger readers in his selections. On the same terms *Poetry I-IV*, an anthology for middle schools, which came out between 1961 and 1963, was also a joint venture with Thompson. Its subtitle, *The Key to the Kingdom*, indicated the central importance both men attached to poetry at a time when the craft of verse writing seemed increasingly under threat in an age becoming overwhelmed by prose, both written and spoken, of a frequently low quality.

In a different sphere was O'Malley's edition of selections from the writings of the 19th-century sociologist Henry Mayhew, entitled *London Street Life* (1966). In the following year he published *Introducing Chaucer*, an introduction for schools. *Precis and Comprehension* (1964) became one of the educational standards, and O'Malley was asked completely to rewrite it as *Comprehension and Summary* in 1970.

A Junior Anthology of Poems in four volumes appeared in 1966, and was aimed at the younger child. In addition, his time in the Western Highlands had given him a deep knowledge and love of the Gaelic folk songs of that region, which, as time went by, he extended to folk song of all eras. He contributed a chapter on the subject entitled *Flowers in the Valley* to Boris Ford's nine-volume *The Cambridge Guide to the Arts in Britain* (1991).

In his home life in Cambridge music was always to the fore. O'Malley had himself taken up the flute from the age of 30, and students and visitors to his house could always expect — besides conversation on a host of subjects — to be treated to a record recital from his collection and probably to some unaccompanied Bach from his wife Pam, to round off the evening.

Raymond O'Malley is survived by his wife Pamela and by their daughter and two sons.

ARUNA ASAF ALI

Aruna Asaf Ali, Indian political activist, died in Delhi on July 29 aged 88. She was born in Kalka, Punjab, on July 16, 1909.

THE socialist route chalked out for India by, first, Jawaharlal Nehru and, subsequently, Indira Gandhi, led to the slow marginalisation of the pro-Western, Anglicised Indian élite. The vacuum was filled by an emerging rival élite imbued with the progressive ideas and displaying a marked tilt towards the Soviet Union.

Straddling the area of consensus between the left wing of the ruling Congress Party and the opposition Communist Party of India (CPI), this new body of opinion formers exercised considerable influence over cultural life and political decision-making in Delhi from the 1950s to the late 1980s.

Along with such influential individuals as V. K. Krishna Menon, Romesh Thapar, D. P. Dhar, Mohan Kummaramangalem, and Rajni Patel, Aruna Asaf Ali was a prominent figure in this charmed circle.

Aruna Ganguli (as she was known before her marriage) was born to a Bengali family in Kalk, a small town in the Himalayan foothills. She was educated at the Sacred Heart Convent in Lahore but emerged as a non-conformist almost from the beginning. In 1928, at the age of 19, she broke with Hindu convention and married Asaf Ali, a Muslim lawyer, who was some twenty years her senior.

A vivacious socialist who moved back and forth between the Congress Party and the CPI, Aruna Asaf Ali shot to prominence during the Quit India movement launched by Mahatma Gandhi against British rule.

On August 9, 1942, while the top leadership of the Congress was imprisoned, she dodged a formidable police cordon and hoisted the Congress flag at the Gowalia Tank Maidan in Bombay. It was an act of audacity and exemplary courage and transformed her into a heroic symbol of the movement. She evaded arrest and became an important underground functionary of the Congress, travelling extensively throughout India.

After Independence in 1947, Aruna Asaf Ali was made president of the Delhi unit of the Congress Party. She identified herself with the socialist faction led by Jayaprakash Narayan and broke away from the Congress in 1948. Her disagreements with the Congress tended to be somewhat unfocused and emotional, prompting Nehru to describe her as "a disturbing and disconcerting individual" who "does not fit in easily into the usual pattern".

Nehru's assessment was borne out when she, along with her companion Edatata Narayanan, broke away from the Socialist Party in 1955 to join the CPI. The very next year, after Nikita Khrushchev's denunciation of Stalin at the 20th Party Congress, she rejoined the Congress Party and was elected the first Mayor of Delhi in 1958. It was the only official post she ever held.

Her resignation from the CPI did not diminish her fondness for the Soviet Union. Active in the network of organisations promoting closer Indo-Soviet co-operation, such as the Afro-Asian Cultural Movement, the All-India Peace Council and All-India Women's Conference, she became the archetypal fellow traveller during the Cold War.

Encouraged by Nehru and Krishna Menon, she ventured into publishing. With Narayanan as her editor, Aruna Asaf Ali became the publisher of *Patriot* — a daily newspaper from Delhi — and *Link*, a news magazine. Both publications aimed at projecting a left-wing, pro-Soviet viewpoint.

For its part, the Soviet Union was generous in its patronage of both *Patriot* and *Link*. Bulk purchases by Moscow bolstered the actual insignificant circulations of these publications within India.

After the disintegration of the USSR, which also coincided with the marginalisation of the Indian Left, both Aruna Asaf Ali's papers fell on hard times and each ceased publication.

Always a loyal friend of the Soviet Union, Aruna Asaf Ali was awarded the Soviet Land Nehru Prize in 1955 and the Lenin Prize for Peace in 1975.

Her husband predeceased her in 1943. They had no children.

DAVID HOLLAND

David Holland, CMG, economist and central banker, died of cancer on July 25 aged 71. He was born on May 31, 1925.

AFTER working as an Oxford academic and Whitehall economist, David Holland was head-hunted by the Bank of England from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office in 1975. He was recruited in order to help to strengthen the bank's senior economic team.

Starting as deputy head of economic intelligence, he went on to become deputy head of the overseas department. Thereafter he took charge of the international division, in the aftermath of the subdivision of the overseas department.

When he retired in 1985, following ten years in Threadneedle Street, the bank's own house journal described him as having one of the best minds of his generation. At one point he led a team whose work on analysing the European markets won it a reputation among central banks as being the world's most authoritative on the subject.

He was among the first to demonstrate the monetary risks of large off-shore markets, long before the Mexican debt crisis in 1982. He went on to chair an international working group on inter-bank markets and to play a leading part in formulating policies following the 1983 financial crisis in Hong Kong.

At the same time he was recognised as having expert knowledge of the North American and Japanese economies. After retiring from the Bank at the age of 60, Holland was snapped up by his former chief Lord Richardson, who had retired as governor of the Bank two years before, and installed as executive director of the Group of 30 — a new influential think-tank containing some of the world's leading central bankers.

As such, Holland coordinated the group's seminal studies on settlements and clearances after the 1987 stock market crash. He then produced his own series of reports which monitored the progress made around the world in implementing the group's recommendations — designed to set new international standards. He was also later involved as a consultant in the early stages of planning Crest, the new electronic settlement system for British and Irish securities markets.

But then David George Holland might be said to have been born to international finance. He came into the world in Genoa, where his father was an executive of the First National City Bank of New York, and began his education in Italy. His father then died, and Holland returned to this country with his mother who sent him to Taunton School.

From there he went up to Wadham College, Oxford, to read politics, philosophy and economics. The Second World War interrupted his studies and he left to serve as a captain with the Royal Corps of Signals in India and Burma.

Returning to Oxford, once he had been demobilised, he went on to take his expected first two years later.

In 1949 Holland joined the Oxford Institute of Economics and Statistics, carrying out research and also teaching at his old college Wadham and at Balliol. He stayed there for 13 years before taking up an appointment at the World Bank in Washington, including a six-month tour in India.

His return to Britain in 1965 was prompted chiefly by Harold Wilson's general election victory of the previous year. Like many others with left-of-centre views, he was attracted by what was then seen as the dawn of an exciting new age.

The Labour Government, for its part, was also anxious to recruit a new generation of gifted young civil servants to Whitehall. Holland spent two years at the Ministry of Overseas Development before winning promotion to the the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as chief economic adviser. It was from there that he was poached by the Bank of England in 1975. He was appointed CMG that same year.

Holland retired from the Group of 30 at the age of 65 in 1990. He continued to work, however, as a consultant until after he had turned 70 last year.

Despite a first-class mind, David Holland was an unassuming person with a sharp sense of humour and powers of persuasion which were almost legendary. He rarely told subordinates what to do but quietly made his own suggestions — at times even playing devil's advocate — helping them eventually to reach their own conclusions.

He had a voracious appetite for work, which left him little time for recreation. When he was able to get away from his desk, he most enjoyed walking in the Chilterns near his country home.

David Holland is survived by his wife Marian, whom he married in 1954 after first meeting her on a tennis court in Oxford, and by their two sons and a daughter.

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I would like to thank all JD's friends that have stood by him for the past 4½ years, your moral and financial support has been invaluable. Besides those friends who live locally I would particularly like to thank friends from Scotland, London, Liverpool and abroad who have recently given a donations and organised collections for JD, your promises of continuing support are reassuring. Margaret

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ON THIS DAY

August 8, 1970

This article was written by the late Roy Hay, for many years the paper's Horticultural Correspondent.

Roses all the way

It is a sad fact of horticultural life that the beginner who is more in need of advice, whether it be about rose growing, or anything else, seldom buys a book on the subject or even borrows one from the local library.

So, thinking this week about roses, I would suggest to anybody about to plant some rose beds or borders, buy or borrow Leonard Hollis's book *Roses* (Collingridge), 25s. With roses at today's prices, he might easily save himself the cost of the book several times over.

I propose to offer some advice to readers who have moved house and wish to grow roses, and to those who, although they have had a garden for some years, have now decided to make roses a feature of it.

First, know your soil. There is a common belief that roses do best on heavy clay. Certainly they like a good rich, retentive loamy soil, but there are clays too heavy and sticky even for roses unless they are improved by working in opening material—manure, peat, garden compost—any organic material that will improve the soil texture. At the other end of the scale, we have the light, quick draining soils, and they too need similar treatment with copious mulching, and watering in dry spells. On such a soil I have found an application of one to two ounces to the square yard of superphosphate in spring in addition to two applications of a general rose fertiliser, very effective.

Next one must consider the question of disease susceptibility. Some varieties are highly resistant to disease, almost immune, others are very prone to mildew, black spot, or rust. But also the locality in which you live has a bearing on this subject. In towns and cities where the air is well laden with sulphurous and other impurities, diseases are usually no problem.

Gradually the rose growers are noting in their catalogues whether a variety may need protection against this or that disease. I wish they would all be as forthcoming. On this question of disease, the placing of roses in any particular garden has a bearing on the liability to disease. If the garden is enclosed by walls, hedges, trees or shrubs, and there is no through current of air, the roses—and many other plants—may be vulnerable to disease. Plant your roses in the most open, airy and sunny part of your garden. The reason is that disease spores germinate and enter the pores of the leaves under warm and humid conditions. In sheltered corners the early morning dew sometimes does not lift until midday, giving the disease spores plenty of time to germinate. You hardly ever see disease on a standard rose because the foliage dries off quickly in the morning.

If you are growing roses for the first time, go for the varieties that have stood the test of time and which you will find in almost every catalogue—hybrid tea varieties like Super Star, Wendy Cussons, Pink Favourite, Fragrant Cloud, Peace, Mischief, Stella, Piccadilly, Rose Gaujard, Prima Ballerina, Chicago Peace and Pascali. If you prefer floribunda roses, you could wisely choose from the following: Iceberg, Evelyn Fison, Queen Elizabeth, Elizabeth of Glamis, Orange Sensation, Orangeade, Pink Parfait, Allgold, Europeana, Dearest, and Paddy McGredy.

Warning: ear plugs needed

By Harvey Elliott

THE decision by Thomson, Britain's leading tour operator, to tell the unvarnished truth in its new brochures, has come too late to prevent two young couples having their holiday in "tranquil, unhurried" Fuerteventura being ruined by blaring disco music, karaoke and quiz nights just a few yards from their bedroom.

Had they booked now for the same holiday next summer they would have been warned in the brochure to "pack your ear plugs". But last year chartered surveyor Edward Flude from Brighton expected to find peace and quiet. When, instead, his party was kept awake by loud entertainment immediately outside the bedroom window he took the company to Brighton Crown Court, claiming almost £1,000 compensation — and won.

Mr Flude told the court he and his wife Amanda, together with their friends Adrian and Julie Roskrow, had chosen the Dunas Caleta Club Apartments in Corralejo because the brochure described it as the "perfect relaxing holiday" and that it was renowned for the "tranquillity of local life".

Ideal, the two families believed, for their two very young children. But their peace and quiet was shattered, the court was told, when the disco around the pool began in the early afternoon and "sunbed quizzes" were held. The noise went on until midnight and as the bedrooms overlooked the disco area sleep was impossible.

"It is difficult to fall asleep when you are forced to answer questions such as 'What was John Wayne's real name?'" Mr Flude told the court. "Children tend to wake up early and it is most wearing if you are unable to even think of going to sleep until things quieten down after midnight every night.

"Inside the apartments it was impossible to escape the music until it ended at midnight most evenings with the DJ's rendition of 'We are the Ovaltinies' — a tune which will probably haunt us as long as we live," Mr Flude said.

"We had to keep the apartment bedroom windows shut to try to cut out some of the noise. We could, however, still hear every tuneless screech and found the heat in the apartments unbearable. My wife's many requests to the DJ for less volume as the babies could not sleep were met with scorn and ignored."

Eventually, they were moved to another apartment but not, they claimed, before the holiday had been ruined — a view with which the judge agreed and granted them their claim in full.

Thomson says that the brochure had been written before the disco had been set up. In the following year's brochure the description was amended so that it described the "lively atmosphere", the "non-stop entertainment" and the poolside music and entertainment.

Now the apartments are featured in the Skytours brochure and customers are advised that they could find themselves near the bar, "so light sleepers pack your ear plugs".

The Thomson spokeswoman added: "Now we have gone further still with a blunt warning that customers should expect lots of fun, night life and possibly noise. We are sorry the two couples had a bad time and this is precisely why we have introduced our new warts-and-all brochure. We hope that everyone who goes to the apartments will know what to expect and have a wonderful time."

Airport hotel rival checks in

By Steve Keenan

BRITAIN'S cheapest hotel chain is looking to undercut high-flying rivals at Heathrow airport by at least half.

The French-owned Formule 1 chain opens its fourth UK hotel — near London City Airport — next month, and is now looking to open near Heathrow as well as in north London. The company charges £19 to £22.50 a night for a room which can sleep up to three people.

The price compares to average rates of £48 a room charged by airport hotels in London last year, according to industry consultants Horwarth.

Formule 1 first opened in the UK five years ago with plans for 200 properties, but admitted it blundered in building where no one could find them. Its three hotels are on industrial estates in Peterborough and Stockton-on-Tees, and on the outskirts of Doncaster.

The latest property, at Barking, Essex, is five miles from London City Airport and is due to open on September 13.

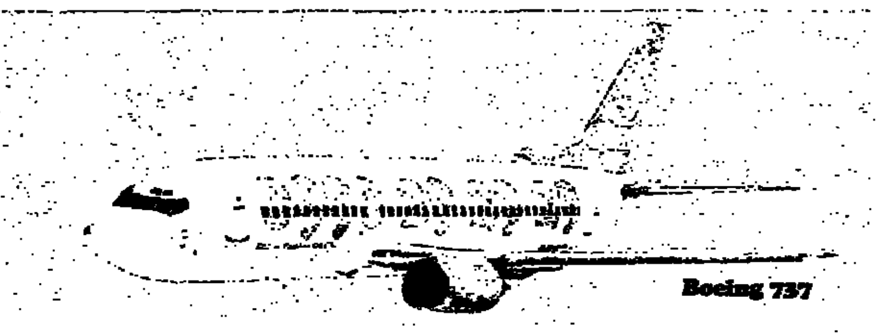
The format will be the same as when the hotels launched to a fanfare in 1991, with Formule 1 claiming to be Britain's first automatic hotel.

Customers use credit card check-in and are allocated a room number. A six-digit code punched into a keyboard gives access to the hotel and room. The hotels have just two managers and part-time cleaning staff.

John Ozinga, the UK operations manager, denied that the British are not struck by hotels with self-cleaning toilets and showers and no restaurants. "We have more of a problem getting people in than keeping them," he said. "We have a very good file of regular clients, such as sales reps."

Two-thirds of clients are on business, with nearly half spending at least one night a week in a hotel. Six out of seven are male.

The Barking hotel will undercut rivals including Travel Inn, Ilford, which charges £35.50 per room per night and even the YMCA in London Docklands, which costs £20 per person.



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IMPACT

A horse market on China's Silk Road, one of the sights that the road — which links Asia with Europe — could offer tourists

Plea to open Silk Road to China and the East

By David Churchill

CHINA and other Asian countries are under pressure to cut red tape to allow tourists greater freedom to travel the historic Silk Road, which linked China to the eastern end of the Mediterranean.

Delegates from 25 member nations of the World Tourism Organisation (WTO), a forum for global tourism issues, has now called for an easing of travel restrictions and the speedier granting of visas at a meeting in the Chinese city of Xi'an. This city was traditionally the starting point for Silk Road merchants making their way to the West.

"The Silk Road is the world's longest thoroughfare, stretching more than 12,000km from China to Europe," says Harsh Varma, the WTO's Asian representative. "Through tourism we intend to revitalise for the nations of Asia some of the wealth that resulted from trade in silk, spices, gold and gems during the times of Marco Polo, Ghengis Khan and the Emperor Tamerlane."

The WTO is hoping that Asian national tourist bodies, Western tour companies, hoteliers and others will take part in promotions to highlight the history and sights that the Silk Road has to offer. Already a tourism roadshow promoting China is due to visit the UK next month to draw travel agents' attention to attractions such as the Silk Road.

Japanese tour companies have developed a 55-day Silk Road tour costing $11,000 (£7,143) from Xi'an to Istanbul, and have had to arrange extra tours because of the demand. Nick Laing, managing director of Steppes East, a specialist UK tour company, predicts that the "Silk Road will gain greatly in recognition in 1997, much as Moscow and St Petersburg have established themselves in the cultural tour of Europe over the last year".

Many Silk Road tourists will, of course, only be visiting part of the route at any one time. Steppes East offers a 10-day journey covering the three most important Silk Road cities of Russian Central Asia — Samarkand, Bukhara and Khiva, all in Uzbekistan — from £1,250 per person.

Steppes East: 01285 810267.

Competition hots up to entice skiers

By Graham Duffill

COMPETITION to secure the first skiing bookings has never been so hot.

Crystal, the ski tour operator, began producing preview brochures in March and mopped up valuable large group bookings. All the big operators such as Thomson, Airtours, First Choice, Neilson and Inghams followed, and many of the specialists including Ski Esprit, Ski the American Dream, Ski Independence and Simply Ski brought their brochures out early to keep up.

The early booker can choose from an array of small incentives. Ski Thomson offers a free place for a child sharing with two adults in six resorts on certain departure dates, and one free place in eight for adult group bookings. Crystal has some free child places in America, Austria, Italy and Andorra, and two lift passes for every one bought in some American, French and Bulgarian resorts.

In addition, America and Canada have begun to take off as serious ski destinations. As a result Inghams is offering the biggest programme of its 62 years with 97 resorts in 11 countries, 19 of which are new resorts mostly in America and Canada.

Careful comparison is needed, particularly between specialists such as Ski the American Dream, which has been selling to the US for 25 years, mass market operators like Crystal and Airtours, who have been there for a few years, and those who have rushed to get the hot destinations in their brochure and who had little choice but to pick up what accommodation was left by the others. Ski Thomson, which used to be number one, let its ski programme wither, a decision it is now doing its best to reverse.

ALLSPORT

Skiing California-style: America is now a top destination

Neilson believes families will return to skiing this season to push the market up by 15 per cent. It has split its growth with 16 new resorts between America and Canada, and typical family resorts in Austria, Italy and France.

Every company seems to have rediscovered the child, thought about the needs of parents and scattered nannies across the Alps.

TRAVEL NOTES

Thomson takes over Budget

IRELAND'S biggest tour operator, Budget Travel, has been bought by the Thomson Travel Group after approval was granted by the Irish Government. Budget was part of the Granada Group and sold 150,000 holidays a year. Its name will stay.

A clear idea

HOLIDAYMAKERS booking at the last minute, are to be "matched" with the resort which will suit their tastes under a scheme designed to remove uncertainty from late breaks. First Choice has introduced Late Choice which, for a £10 premium above the discounted rate, gives an indication of the type of accommodation and resort.

Choose a project

A TOURISM programme devised by the the Kalash people of the Hindu Kush, and one by the Wensleydale Creamery visitor centre in North Yorkshire are among projects vying for the 1997 Tourism for Tomorrow awards.

Sponsored by British Airways, the awards are designed to encourage a responsible environmental management of tourism. Other projects entered include one to save Kenyan sea turtles.

No such thing as a free ride

By Harvey Elliott

PLANS to reduce the number of cars which clog roads leading to Heathrow and cause hundreds of passengers to miss their flights are being thwarted — by the taxman.

BAA, the airport operator, wanted to give away bus, tube or train passes to encourage thousands of airport staff to use public transport rather than cars to get to work. But the Inland Revenue issued a warning that employees' tax bills would rise if it did.

Yet car park passes provided by airlines, shops, restaurants and other employers at Heathrow — which are worth, on average, about £300 each — are not subject to tax. Environmental groups describe the ruling as "ludicrous".

The company is now paying for additional local bus services — and the number of passengers has doubled since the scheme began last year.

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Air travel is a bargain

By Tony Dawe

FURTHER proof that the world is becoming a more affordable place for travellers comes with the publication today of a survey which shows how air fares have plummeted in the past two years.

The figures from STA Travel, which specialises in organising trips for young independent travellers, show how the fares it is offering on scheduled flights from London to all parts of the world have dropped.

Flights to Australia and New Zealand are now more than £100 cheaper than two years ago and fares to the Far East have dropped by an average of £60. The biggest cut has come in Europe as the European Commission encourages an "open skies" policy.

"There is tremendous competition in the marketplace as more people travel and most of them shop around for the best deals," says Gillian Smith, STA's marketing manager. "As a result, airlines have been forced to bring down their fares and negotiate cheaper deals with us, especially as they regard our young customers as business travellers of the future."

The company, which organised flights for 50,000 travellers eight years ago, now sends 350,000 abroad each year and reports that the Australian market has seen the greatest growth. It faces strong competition from several other travel companies, especially in the summer when fares drop below £600.

European airlines have been forced to cut fares, initially under pressure from airlines such as British Midland and more recently from no-frills services offered by EasyJet and Debonair.

The South of France, which used to be a premium route, is now available at bargain prices with flights to Nice from £49 and Air Liberté charging £99 return for its new services from Gatwick to Bordeaux and Toulouse.

London has become "an Eldorado for the purchase of discounted tickets", according to Hugo J. van Reijen, a Dutch expert on air fares. "There are 140 different airlines in London which are selling their tickets via agents or directly to the public at special prices," he writes in his new book, *Why Not Fly Cheaper?*.

"The cheap tickets are also available in other European capitals. In London, however, competition is the strongest, and as a consequence the prices tend to be the lowest in Europe."

AIR FARES FROM LONDON

	1994 £	1996 £
Paris	85	49
Amsterdam	72	49
Zurich	144	96
Athens	240	149
Sydney	920	783
Auckland	1,009	883
Bangkok	499	429
Bombay	449	389
Hong Kong	518	459

These are the fares negotiated by STA Travel with scheduled airlines; some are available to all travellers but others are restricted to students and under 26-year-olds.

Palermo fights Mafia image

By Tim Ware

FOR CENTURIES, when Sicily was at the political and economic hub of the Mediterranean, Palermo compared favourably with Rome, Milan and Venice in the richness of its buildings. But decades of Mafia interference, government incompetence and corruption changed all that. Since the Second World War the city has been a sad shadow of its former self.

Now the Mayor, Leoluca Orlando, who came to power three years ago with 75 per cent of the vote secured on an anti-Mafia ticket, has embarked on an extensive restoration programme, spending about three billion lire (about £126 million) on reviving the Palermo economy and buildings. One of the most ambitious projects is the restoration of the 3,000-seat opera house, which celebrates its centenary next July.

The Mayor's anti-Mafia stance comes at considerable personal cost to himself and his family. Two weeks ago a package was placed in the garden of his villa. The device was exploded by remote control and turned out to be harmless but the message behind the incident was clear.

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(Black Widow Spider)

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(Common Hoodlum)

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Why oh why oh why?

The Travel Business

HARVEY ELLIOTT

Charlie, the four-year-old daughter of a good friend, has a winning — and effective — way of asking questions. She waits until you have made some perfectly logical statement and then, with a smile and a slight upwards inflexion in her voice asks simply "Why?".

Her crisp method of challenging even the most strongly held belief could usefully be used to question some of the more irritating, bizarre and unnecessary rules and activities of the travel industry and its regulators. For example:

☐ Package tour operators insist that you check in at least an hour and a half and sometimes two hours before departure, so ensuring long queues. *Why?*

☐ British airports have now abandoned public address announcements in favour of televisions, guaranteeing that someone will be in the bar or the bookshop when the flight is due to leave. *Why?*

☐ When a flight is late, there is never anyone available accurately to explain the reason. The air traffic controllers seem to get blamed for everything. *Why?*

☐ Passports are checked at least three times, yet Britons pride themselves on being able to freely leave their home country. *Why?*

☐ Golfers and skiers seem to be able to load any amount of kit into the hold without penalty while the ordinary passenger would be charged excess baggage for such extravagance. *Why?*

☐ The stampede for duty frees means that everyone gets on board with far more than the one item of hand baggage allegedly allowed. *Why?*

☐ Customs and Excise flatly refuses to allow duty-free goods to be collected on arrival rather than on departure, adding to the above problem and potentially endangering the aircraft. *Why?*

☐ Once on board, the cabin crew inform passengers that there is a life vest under the seat with a whistle and a tube to refill it — even though no passenger has ever had to use one. *Why?*

☐ Once the aircraft has stopped everyone immediately stands in the aisle with their hand baggage, even though the doors will not be open for another five minutes. *Why?*

☐ Tour operators employ reps who speak in a strange sing-song and seem trained to treat passengers like idiots. *Why?*

☐ Many of the more popular but cheaper hotels do not provide beach towels, even for use at their own poolside. *Why?*

☐ Guests are always told to check out before noon, even if their flight is at midnight and no further guests are expected. *Why?*

☐ The bus to the airport will leave at least four hours before departure — even though it may still be the middle of the night in the resort. *Why?*

☐ Almost without exception, all foreign holiday airports are badly designed, overcrowded and uncomfortable. *Why?*

☐ Refreshment counters close rigidly at a fixed time, even though the airport may still be heaving with delayed passengers. *Why?*

☐ Many airlines, especially charters, do not employ their own staff in resorts. They claim it is too expensive and are then surprised when their local agent either hides or is besieged by angry passengers demanding the one thing they are incapable of giving — accurate information. *Why?*

☐ However short the flight and whatever time of the day or night, all airlines are convinced that their passengers need feeding. *Why?*

☐ Instead of distributing the luggage among all the carousels in the arrivals hall, four or five flights have to share the only one working. *Why?*

☐ Few of the above questions need bother anyone holidaying in Britain, yet nine million of us will head off on a foreign package tour this year. *Why?*

The travel industry should address these questions and more like them, soon — or I'll set Charlie on them.

Bargains of the week — take a Jeep through Turkey, raise a glass to Munich

HOTELS

"ESCAPADE en Champagne" is a three-night package available at the Hotel le Bristol in Paris until the end of the year, including a one-day escorted tour to Reims to visit the cellars of the Veuve Cliquot champagne house, along with lunch and a bottle of champagne. Price, based on double occupancy, is Fr7080 (about £944) per person. Details: 00331 53 43 43 25.

■ A 20 per cent discount on the standard rate is available until the end of the month at Ashdown Park Hotel in East Sussex. The summer rate is available on any Sunday to Thursday night (excluding the bank holiday) from £99.20 per room based on two sharing. Details: 01342 824988.

■ TWO 40-room Travel Inn budget hotels open this week at Dunstable in Bedfordshire and Bispham, near Blackpool. Both are next to Beefeater restaurants. Rooms which can accommodate up to four cost £35.50 per night. Details: 01582 414341.

■ THE Franklin Hotel in Knightsbridge is offering champagne, strawberries and English tea as part of its "balmy summer breaks" promotion until the end of the month. Rooms are priced at £140 including VAT instead of the normal £175 plus VAT. Details: 0171-584 5533.

■ BARCELONA'S Conrad International Hotel, voted the city's best by more than 700 travel agents, has a "summer dreams" offer until the end of the month of £27 per person per night plus VAT, based on a three-night stay. Details: 0990 445866.

■ GUESTS staying with Inter-Continental Hotels' "summer spectacular" programme until September 3 will not only get special rates at 58 European hotels (up to 50 per cent off in some cases) but also a voucher worth $50 (about £33) celebrating the group's 50th anniversary this year which can be used towards a future leisure stay at any of the 180 Inter-Continental hotels worldwide. Details: 0345 581444.

■ A £500 deposit secures a place at the Chester Grosvenor's eight-course gourmet dinner to be held on New Year's Eve 1999, with a fine wine for every course from different decades of the 20th century, along with champagne and a 1900 Armagnac. The price is £1,500 per head and 15 people have already booked. Details: 01244 324024.

■ THE Excelsior Hotel Ernst in Cologne is offering the "ultimate business programme" until December 7 with a welcome fruit basket and wine, a detailed street map of the city and free use of the business centre with secretarial and translation services. Price is DM330 (about £140) per night for single occupancy, DM440 double. Details: 0800 181123.

■ THE Murrayshall County House Hotel and Golf Course in Perthshire offers one night's accommodation and one round of golf for £62.50 per person. Details of this and other golfing breaks from Crystal Premier Golf: 0181-390 8513.

ROBERT BOSCH/ARZENBERGER/COLORIFIC

Take a 15-day walking holiday on Mont Blanc for £620 per person, leaving August 26

FERRIES

FREE Le Shuttle tickets are on offer with standard return bookings made by August 15 through Thomas Cook. With every economy ticket bought (£109 or £129) customers receive a free day return. The standard return must be used by August 31 — the free ticket can be used between September 9 and December 12, excluding October 19-27.

■ SEA France has limited numbers of tickets available for £79 return on Dover-Calais this summer, or £39.50 one-way sailings. Details: 0990 711711.

■ SCANDINAVIAN Seaways is discounting £20 per adult, £10 per child off motoring holidays to Germany and Scandinavia. Reductions apply to all August and September holidays. Details: 0990 333222.

■ MINI-CRUISES from Portsmouth-Bilbao are available with P&O European Ferries from £59, depending on the time of year. The price is based on two travelling and includes cabin. £20 supplement for window cabins. Details: 0990 980980.

■ HOVERSPEED day trips are selling at £39 for a car and up to five passengers on Dover-Calais (£10 supplement on Saturdays) until September 9. The Folkestone-Boulogne route costs £35 (£45), available through Driveline Europe. The company also has day trips on Sea France, sailing Dover-Calais, for £15 per car and £4 per passenger until August 31. Details: 0181-324 4000.

FLIGHTS

AIR UK has one of the lowest fares to Edinburgh. From August 19 its new service from London City to Edinburgh is launched with a £49 return (£33 return for children) fare with no minimum stay restriction. Details 0345 666777.

■ BOOK a full-fare £234 return ticket with World Airlines between London City and Amsterdam and qualify for free car parking and a night's free hotel accommodation on arrival. Details 0171-287 6000.

■ DEBONAIR has combined its Luton to Düsseldorf express and Munich services with a single flight but its low one-way fares remain as before, £39 to Düsseldorf, £49 to Munich. Details 0500 146200.

■ EUROSTAR and British Midland have introduced rail-air interchange tickets between London, Brussels and Paris. Prices start at £169 one way but if you book a return ticket you qualify for a further free Eurostar ticket usable at a later date. Details 0990 300003.

■ LUPUS Travel has cut-price business-class fares with Alitalia to eight Italian cities provided your stay includes a Saturday. Rome or Florence, for example, cost £298. Details 0171-306 3000.

■ BLUEBIRD Express has a low £379 fare to Johannesburg during August and September flying with charter airline Caledonian. Book today. Details 0990 320000.

HOLIDAYS

TENERIFE for a week for £269 a person in self-catering accommodation with a flight from Gatwick next Tuesday is available from Page & Moy. Details: 0116-250 7116.

■ FISHERMEN eager to enjoy National Fishing Week from August 17 to 24 can still find properties with fishing facilities available from Blakes Country Cottages, including a house on Loch Awe for £515 for up to four people and one on the Norfolk Broads for £673 for up to six people. Details: 01282 445097.

■ JEEP safaris through Turkey, including mountain walking and rafting, are available for a week from August 17 and 31 from Accommodation Overseas for £299 a person, including hotel and tent accommodation and half board. Flights extra. Details: 0181-977 2984.

■ SAVINGS of £50 a person on two-centre holidays in Bavaria, departing Heathrow on August 17 for eight days in Regensburg and Munich, are available from Moswin Tours. Prices now start at £608 a person, including half-board accommodation and excursions. Details: 0116-271 9922.

■ CRYSTAL Lakes and Mountains is offering 11-night holidays in Austria for the price of seven, £239 a person, with flights from Gatwick, Glasgow and Manchester on August 17 and 24, with bed-and-breakfast accommodation. Details: 0181-399 5144.

■ BANK Holiday breaks in country guest houses in the Lake District for £72 a person including two nights' full board and picnic lunches are available from Countrywide Holidays. Details: 0161-446 2226.

■ NILE cruises for £469 a person for a week with full board and excursions are available from Goldenjoy Holidays with flights from Gatwick on August 23 and 30 and Manchester on August 24 and 31. Details: 0171-794 9767.

■ ITALIAN city hotel prices are being cut by 20 per cent by Room Service, with a double room with breakfast at a family-run hotel in Rome now costing £27 a person. With return flights available from £139, a week's holiday costs £328. Other deals available in Florence, Siena and Venice. Details: 0171-636 6888.

■ TOUR du Mont Blanc walking holiday, departing on August 26 for 15 days, is still available from Exodus for £620 a person, including return flights and tent accommodation. Details: 0181-675 5550.

■ FUERTEVENTURA for a fortnight for £309 a person in self-catering accommodation with a flight from Gatwick on August 28 is on offer from Inspirations. One week also available. Details: 01293 822244.

■ TOURS to the Munich Beer Festival are being organised from £169 a person by Top Deck, with departures between September 19 and 30 for six to nine-day bus and camping holidays. Details: 0171-370 4555.

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THE TIMES TODAY

NEWS

Clinton hails 'stunning' Mars find

■ President Clinton saluted as "stunning" the discovery that life may have evolved independently on Mars.

Promising to pursue the discovery through further missions to the planet — the first will be launched in November — the President announced that a science summit would be held later this year to discuss the finding. If confirmed, he said: "It will surely be one of the most stunning insights into our world that science has ever uncovered." .... **Pages 1, 3**

Short claims Labour could lose

■ Tony Blair suffered his worst political blow since becoming Labour leader when Clare Short, a member of his Shadow Cabinet, openly voiced doubts over whether his party would win the next general election. Miss Short had been demoted by Mr Blair in his front-bench reshuffle two weeks ago.... **Page 1**

Tramp released

A tramp was released from a prison in Brittany after apparently being cleared of raping and murdering the Cornish schoolgirl Caroline Dickinson. The French police investigation is now in disarray .... **Page 1**

A new ball game

The England and Pakistan cricket captains will toss to decide which ball to use before the start of the second Test match between England and Pakistan...... **Page 1**

Inflation watch

The Bank of England told Kenneth Clarke, the Chancellor, that he must raise interest rates "sooner rather than later" to keep the battle against inflation on course .... **Page 2**

Judgment day

Vicars, traditionally answerable only to God, are asked to sit in judgment on each other under guidelines being drawn up by the Church of England .... **Page 4**

Tea and sympathy

Domenico Forte, owner of a tearoom, won a battle with the mighty *Forte* chain that had tried to stop him running his business under his own name........ **Page 5**

Bank at fault

A branch of the National Westminster Bank in King's Lynn apologised to business customers after overcharging them by up to £14,000 each............ **Page 7**

Mob invades office

Nine anti-roads protesters were arrested when a mob forced its way into the office of the head of London Underground after a protest in Trafalgar Square in support of a Tube strike .... **Page 8**

Chester of yore

Deva, the Roman Chester, was the largest fort in the country. It covered 60 acres and boasted the largest amphitheatre. Clearly, something pretty important was going on here............ **Page 9**

Indonesian puzzle

There are two subjects that President Suharto of Indonesia never discusses publicly: the succession issue, which is causing jitters, and the vast fortune of his children .... **Page 10**

Grozny set to fall

Chechen rebels were poised to capture the centre of Grozny, the besieged Chechen capital, as Russian troops were driven out of the city .... **Page 11**

America opposed

America's heavy-handed attempt to impose worldwide sanctions on countries trading with Iran and Libya ran into a storm of foreign criticism............ **Page 12**

Show of force

Amid fears of an upsurge in gang warfare, armed Muslims paraded through Cape Town, warning drugs dealers to halt their trade or risk being killed......... **Page 13**

Jackie O's secrets come to life

■ A new book, *All Too Human; the Love Story of Jack and Jackie Kennedy*, discloses lurid details of the lives of the late "royals" of America: from descriptions of where the young Jackie Bouvier first made love (in a creaking, ascending Paris lift) to the sexual disease that afflicted the former President through much of his adult life............ **Page 12**

DAVID HOWELLS

Eric the Red, a semi-albino badger recovering at Vale Wildlife Rescue Centre at Beckford, near Tewksbury, meets a new friend, Fleabag

BUSINESS

Economy: British business reacted with alarm to a Bank of England warning that it would push for a pre-emptive rise in interest rates to ensure the Government's inflation target is met .... **Page 23**

Cordiant: Peter Rawlins, the former chief executive of the Stock Exchange, has been made European head of Siegel & Gale, the corporate-identity arm of Cordiant .... **Page 23**

Power: Electricity companies that fail to deliver competition for household consumers face tough penalties .... **Page 23**

Markets: The FT-SE 100 index rose 22.7 points to close at 3811.1. Sterling's trade-weighted index rose to 84.3 after a rise to $1.5422 and to DM2.2868............ **Page 26**

SPORT

Cricket: The conditions for play are much to England's liking at Headingley where they take on Pakistan in the crucial second Test match, hoping to square the series............ **Pages 42 and 44**

Golf: Tom Watson, the American who has won eight major titles, favours Colin Montgomerie as they prepare for the US PGA Championship in Louisville .... **Page 42**

Athletics: Jonathan Edwards, the Olympic silver medallist, won the triple jump in windy conditions in Sestriere, but Linford Christie and Colin Jackson had to settle for minor placings .... **Page 44**

Rugby league: As the sport tries to spread its wings further, there is optimistic talk of forming a five nations' tournament......... **Page 38**

ARTS

Films of the week: The US box-office smash, *Independence Day*, in which aliens invade America, is more hype than good drama; but *The Secret of Roan Inish* is full of imaginative fantasy .... **Page 31**

New releases: *Desperado*, *Cold Fever* and *Clockers* are among videos on release, while Hallgrimsson's String Quartets and Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 are recommended buys........... **Page 32**

Art prizes: The British Gas Properties, Working for Cities Awards, have chosen Antony Gormley's 65ft controversial sculpture *Angel of the North* and five other projects as their winners .... **Page 33**

Strong star: Harriet Walter turns in a fine performance in Chichester's *Hedda Gabler* .... **Page 33**

FEATURES

Escape route: Many of the daughters of prostitute mothers in Calcutta are abused. A new centre now tries to keep the girls away from their mothers' clients......... **Page 15**

Out to lunch: If you take a proper lunch break in a good restaurant, you do your work more efficiently — and that's official .... **Page 15**

BODY AND MIND

Dr Thomas Stuttaford on why the state of being a twin of a stillborn baby is described as being a psychological catastrophe....... **Page 14**

Diagnosing ME: A patient's body and mind need care and neither one is more important than the other............ **Page 14**

TRAVEL

Bargains of the week: Take a Jeep through Turkey............ **Page 21**

BOOKS

Ideals, glory and genius: David Watkin on Sir John Soane; Bernard Levin listens to Wagner; Michael Hofmann on Peter Reading's poems............ **Pages 34, 35**

THE PAPERS

Whatever history's judgment of these Olympics, there's credit due to communities with the heart, cohesion and community pride to take on a job such as this — and Atlanta deserves it in full

— *The Washington Post*

TV LISTINGS

Preview: Rolf Harris has started something in *Back to the Wild*. Before long there will hardly be an animal hospital in the land that is not being overrun by television crews (BBC1, 8pm) **Review:** Matthew Bond confesses his guilt at having watched only 3½ hours of *Murder One* .... **Page 43**

OPINION

Signal from space

These tiny fragments from the red planet may be the harbingers of discoveries that will profoundly alter our perceptions of the universe and our place in it............ **Page 17**

The guns of Grozny

Russia will not grant independence and the Chechen rebels refuse to be part of Russia. The trick is to establish a lasting truce while searching for a formula that enables both sides to emerge with some honour .... **Page 17**

Hard choices

The young woman bearing twins whose decision to abort one foetus has touched the nation's conscience will have suffered difficulties enough without her position becoming a matter of general debate .... **Page 17**

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

Until this week man could still reasonably believe there might be no other comparable intelligent life in the rest of the Universe. The Mars discovery makes that absurdly unlikely. If there has been life on Mars, there will almost certainly be varied life on other planets of other stars in other galaxies .... **Page 16**

PHILIP POWELL

The South African "miracle" is part of a public relations exercise. It is a "miracle" that has not reached those who need homes, employment and education. Nor has it reached those struggling to sustain small enterprises............ **Page 16**

OBITUARIES

Raymond O'Malley, university lecturer in education at Cambridge, 1961-76; **Aruna Asaf Ali**, Indian political activist; **David Holland**, economist .... **Page 19**

LETTERS

Gun ownership; endangered species; Atlanta; Alan Shearer; Catholics and the Queen .... **Page 17**

TOMORROW

IN THE TIMES

■ **FLY AWAY**
Final token in our £30,000 Virgin flights competition, with 14 pairs of tickets to Johannesburg to be won

■ **LIFE OR DEATH**
David Dimbleby on assisted suicide and the family wrangle that has divided America

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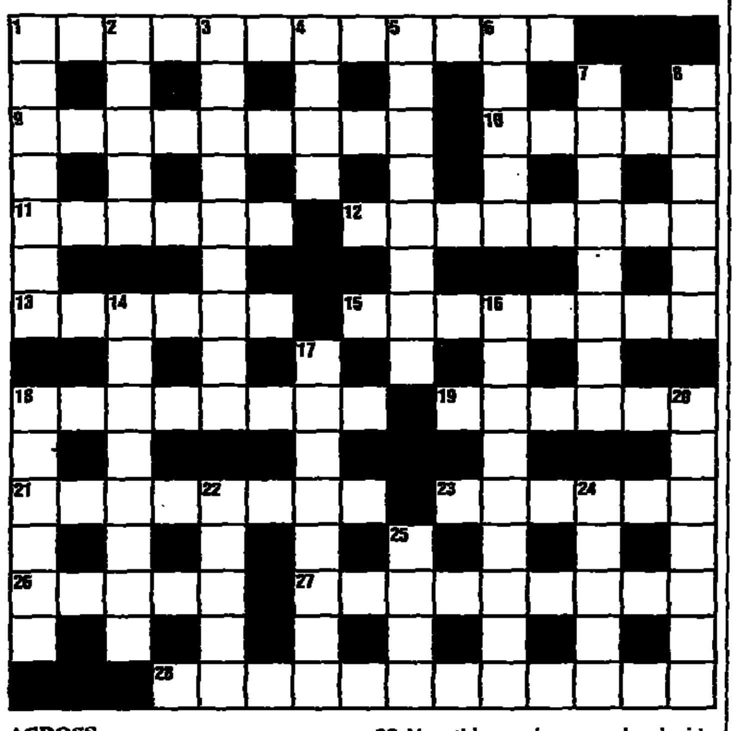

ACROSS

1 He stirs up the mob dreadfully, bar our rebels (6-6).
9 One may rise to great heights, in the event (4,5).
10 Very bad fever? It's not clear (5).
11 Where young players bring each other up (6).
12 Budding engineers hacked by well-bred man (8).
13 Unrefined sailor's leader moves back to fifth place (6).
15 Horse of more than average height in Jerusalem (8).
18 Like Christian, up in arms (8).
19 One deported before hijacking Russian plane (6).
21 Agree with officer serving porridge, say (8).
23 Quickly grab a few notes (6).
26 End of ballade delivered in unbroken voices (5).
27 Deficit Alice certainly didn't have (9).
28 Very tidy, putting second tool with second container (5,3,4).

DOWN

1 Comeback of one with job in engineering group (7).
2 One producing ring, say, for a beautiful woman (5).
3 Have Latin translated — it means "sea monster" (9).
4 Not quite the way to turn up (4).
5 Last man admitted by university after the usual time (8).
6 Slippery youngster gives new order to characters opening bar (5).
7 Seeing eye to eye about soldiers getting older (8).
8 Worsted worn by use? (6).
14 Barker's recovery guaranteeing us the game (8).
16 Scaly creature climbing over man (9).
17 One cannot go on for long in this way (3-2-3).
18 It's playfully taken to be the name of a Finn (6).
20 Level of command supplying English revolutionary with half our capital (7).
22 Cry from bird shot crossing river (5).
24 One dossing down in cargo boat? (5).
25 Seat hitherto abandoned by the right (4).

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Times Two Crossword, page 44

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N E England	718
Cumbria & Lake District	719
S W Scotland	720
W Central Scotland	721
Edin S Fife/Lothian & Borders	722
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Grampian & E Highlands	724
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FORECAST

☐ England and Wales will start mostly dry with sunny spells. Cloud will increase from the West during the day, with showery bursts of rain in the North and West by evening.

Scotland will be bright and mainly dry at first but rain, already over Northern Ireland, will break out in western Scotland during the morning. Heavy showers could develop over other areas.

☐ **London, SE England, E Anglia, Central S England, E Midlands, E England, Channel Isles, Central N England:** mostly dry, sunny spells, but increasingly cloudy. Wind mainly southerly light or moderate. Max 22C (72F)

☐ **W Midlands, NW England, NE England:** sunny intervals at first, patchy rain or showers later. Wind south moderate, fresh later. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **SW England, Wales:** bright start, patchy rain later. Wind southerly moderate, fresh later. Max 20C (68F).

☐ **Lakes, IoM, Borders, Edinburgh & Dundee, Aberdeen, SW Scotland, Glasgow, Central Highlands, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Argyll, NW Scotland:** rather cloudy with showers breaking out, some heavy and prolonged. Wind south or southeast fresh, perhaps strong. Max 19C (66F).

☐ **Orkney, Shetland:** fairly cloudy and misty, perhaps drizzle. Wind southeast moderate or fresh. Max 15C (59F).

☐ **N Ireland:** rain at times after a bright start in the east. Clearer later. Wind southerly fresh becoming southwesterly moderate. Max 17C (63F).

☐ **Outlook:** unsettled with showers, but also sunny intervals.

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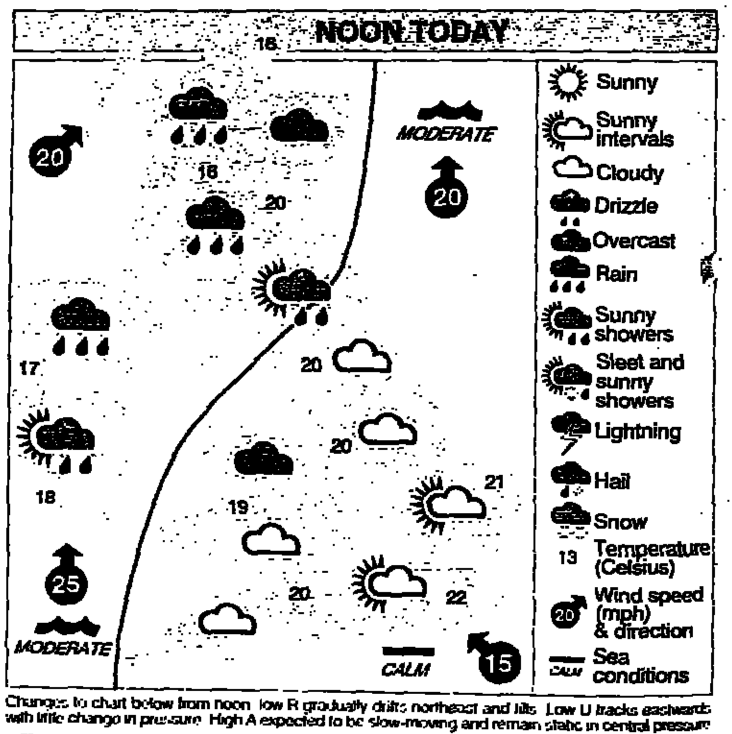
	Sun hrs	Rain in	Max C	F	
Anglesey	6.2	0.01	18	64	s
Aspatria	1.6	0.03	18	64	r
Aviemore	0.2	0.05	15	59	r
Belfast	1.9	0.02	16	61	d
Birmingham	3.5	0.24	21	70	s
Bognor R	10.3	-	22	72	s
Bournem'th	10.6	-	23	73	s
Bristol	7.4	-	20	68	s
Cardiff	7.5	0.01	19	66	s
Clacton	5.4	-	19	66	c
Colwyn Bay	7.0	0.34	19	66	s
Cromer	3.5	0.06	17	63	sh
Dunbar	0.1	0.27	16	61	r
Eastbourne	9.6	0.01	19	66	s
Edinburgh	2.2	0.15	21	70	t
Eskdalemuir	0.4	0.07	18	64	r
Exmouth	7.8	-	19	66	s
Falmouth	10.2	-	20	68	c
Fishguard	9.5	0.04	18	64	s
Folkestone	6.1	-	20	68	b
Glasgow	8.1	0.01	21	70	s
Guernsey	12.4	-	21	70	s
Hastings	9.9	-	20	68	s
Hayling I	9.6	-	22	72	s
Herne Bay	5.3	-	21	70	c
Hove	9.2	-	20	68	b
Isle of Man	6.5	0.01	17	63	s
Jersey	13.4	-	20	68	s
Leeds	1.2	0.07	16	61	c
Lerwick	5.2	0.01	16	61	s
Littlehmptn	11.1	-	22	72	s
London	3.8	0.01	20	68	b
Manchester	3.6	0.02	18	64	d
Margate	5.6	-	21	70	b
Minehead	6.8	0.17	19	66	b
Morecambe	3.2	0.09	17	63	r
Newcastle	5.4	0.56	19	66	sh
Newquay	13.7	0.01	18	64	s
Norwich	1.5	-	18	64	c
Oxford	6.1	0.01	22	72	s
Penzance	X	0.01	20	68	d
Poole	11.4	-	24	75	s
Ross-o-wye	7.6	0.01	21	70	s
Ryde	10.9	-	22	72	s
Salcombe	6.1	-	19	66	s
Sandown	10.5	-	21	70	s
Sauntn Snd	9.7	0.07	18	64	s
Scarboro'	2.2	0.44	18	64	r
Shanklin	11.3	-	X	X	s
Shrewsbury	5.2	0.21	20	68	s
Southport	4.0	0.03	17	63	s
Southsea	8.9	-	21	70	s
Stornoway	-	0.15	14	57	b
Swanage	11.8	-	20	68	s
Teignmouth	7.3	-	21	70	s
Tenby	4.5	0.02	X	X	b
Torquay	8.1	-	22	72	s
Ventnor	10.7	-	19	66	s
West-s-mare	7.4	-	19	66	s
Weymouth	10.7	-	20	68	s

ABROAD

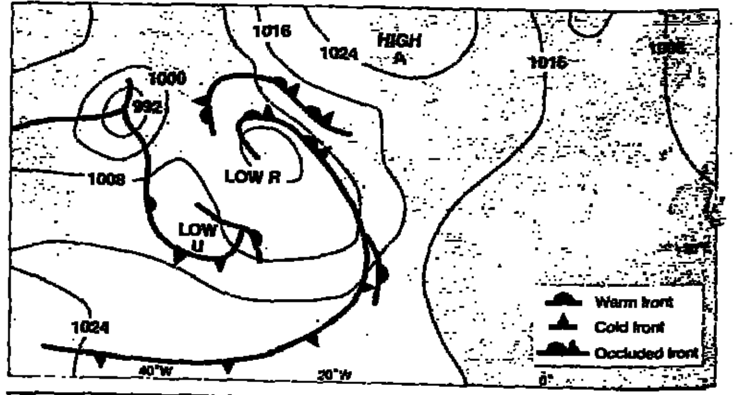
Ajaccio	28	82	s	C'phagn	21	70	f	Malaga	33	91	s	S Paulo	25	77	c
Akrotiri	30	86	s	Dublin	10	50	r	Malta	32	90	s	Salzburg	19	66	c
Alex'dria	30	86	s	Dubrovnik	28	82	s	Melb'rne	12	54	f	Santiago	12	54	s
Algiers	32	90	s	Faro	24	75	s	Mexico C	21	70	f	Seoul	31	88	c
Amst'dm	17	63	r	Florence	29	84	s	Miami	32	90	s	St'kholm	22	72	s
Athens	37	99	s	Frankfurt	16	61	r	Milan	27	81	f	Strasb'rg	24	75	f
B Aires	11	52	c	Funchal	24	75	c	Montreal	29	84	s	Sydney	17	63	s
Bahrain	39	102	s	Geneva	25	77	f	Moscow	20	68	s	Tangier	24	75	f
Bangkok	31	88	t	Gibraltar	27	81	s	Munich	19	66	s	Tel Aviv	32	90	s
Barbados	29	84	t	Helsinki	20	68	f	N Delhi	32	90	f	Tenerife	27	81	s
Barcelona	27	81	f	Hong K	32	90	c	N York	29	84	s	Tokyo	28	82	s
Beirut	29	84	f	Innsbrck	19	66	f	Nairobi	26	79	s	Toronto	29	84	s
Belgrade	23	73	s	Istanbul	31	88	s	Naples	32	90	s	Tunis	34	93	s
Berlin	20	68	f	Jeddah	38	100	s	Nice	26	79	s	Valencia	30	86	s
Bermuda	27	81	f	Jo'burg	10	50	s	Oslo	26	79	f	Vanc'ver	20	68	s
Biarritz	20	68	c	Karachi	X			Paris	23	73	c	Venice	25	77	f
Borde'x	21	70	f	L Angels	23	73	s	Peking	32	90	s	Vienna	17	63	c
Brussels	24	75	f	L Palmas	25	77	s	Perth	13	55	f	Warsaw	16	61	c
Budapst	23	73	c	Le Touqt	18	64	f	Prague	17	63	c	Wash'ton	30	86	f
Cairo	33	91	s	Lisbon	27	81	f	Reykjavik	10	50	f	Wellngton	12	54	-
Cape Tn	17	63	f	Locarno	24	75	f	Rhodes	30	86	s	Zurich	22	72	f
Ch'church	11	52	-	Luxmbg	20	68	f	Rio de J	24	75	s				
Chicago	31	88	s	Luxor	39	102	s	Riyadh	43	109	s				
Cologne	16	61	r	Madrid	28	82	s	Rome	29	84	s				
Corfu	34	93	s	Majorca	29	84	s	S Fr'isco	17	63	f				

Temperatures at midday local time Tuesday. X = not available

NOON TODAY



Changes to chart below from noon: low R gradually drifts northeast and fills. Low U tracks eastwards with little change in pressure. High A expected to be slow-moving and remain static in central pressure



HIGH TIDES

TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT	TODAY	AM	HT	PM	HT
London Bridge	8.33	6.1	9.05	6.0	Leith	9.45	4.6	10.19	4.5
Aberdeen	8.39	3.5	9.17	3.5	Liverpool	6.04	7.5	6.43	7.4
Avonmouth	1.28	10.2	2.03	10.0	Lowestoft	4.46	2.1	5.06	2.2
Belfast	6.08	3.1	6.45	3.1	Margate	6.50	4.0	7.16	4.0
Cardiff	1.21	9.5	1.53	9.3	Milford Haven	0.42	5.4	1.19	5.3
Devonport	0.00	4.3	12.48	4.3	Newquay	12.20	5.1	-	-
Dover	5.49	5.4	6.18	5.5	Oban	0.45	2.8	1.13	2.8
Dublin (N Wall)	6.49	3.5	7.25	3.5	Penzance	11.52	4.3	-	-
Falmouth	12.21	4.1	-	-	Portland	0.28	1.4	1.13	1.4
Greenock	6.53	2.9	7.17	2.9	Portsmouth	6.04	3.8	6.36	3.9
Harwich	6.29	3.3	6.57	3.3	Shoreham	5.51	4.8	6.18	4.9
Holyhead	5.22	4.5	6.12	4.5	Southampton	5.36	3.8	6.17	3.9
Hull (Albert D)	0.57	6.1	1.33	6.1	Swansea	0.44	7.4	1.16	7.2
Ilfracombe	0.23	7.2	12.57	7.0	Tees	10.53	4.4	11.30	4.3
King's Lynn	1.03	5.2	1.39	5.2	Walton-on-Naze	6.27	3.5	6.54	3.5

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HIGHEST & LOWEST

Yesterday: Highest day temp: Poole, Dorset, 24C (75F); lowest day max: Cape Wrath, Highland, 13C (55F); highest rainfall: Cotterhead, Staffordshire, 0.83in; highest sunshine: Newquay, Cornwall, 13.7hr

RNLI RESCUE UPDATE - 8 AUGUST 1996

Total number of lives saved so far this year:	307
Total number of lifeboat launches so far this year:	1,821
Cost to RNLI per day:	£173,000
Cost to taxpayer:	£0
To make a donation, telephone:	0800 543210

Lifeboats
Royal National Lifeboat Institution
Reg. Charity No 209603

هكذا من الاصل

THE TIMES 2

INSIDE SECTION 2 TODAY

ECONOMICS Anatole Kaletsky: why Ken and Eddie could both be right BUSINESS 23-30

ARTS Harriet Walter is the best of a gaggle of Hedda Gablers PAGES 31-33

SPORT Soggy finish to England's Test preparations PAGES 38-44

TELEVISION AND RADIO PAGES 42-43

BUSINESS EDITOR Lindsay Cook

THURSDAY AUGUST 8 1996

Stage set for public fight between Clarke and George on inflation

Business alarm over rate threat

George: inflation worry

By Janet Bush
Economics Correspondent

BRITISH business reacted with alarm to the Bank of England's warning in its Inflation Report yesterday that it would push for a preemptive rise in interest rates to ensure the Government's inflation target is met.

Ian Peters, Deputy Director-General of the British Chambers of Commerce, said: "Our members do not want any change to the current level of interest rates. To raise them now could endanger the slow but steady recovery." He added: "There are many small firms still struggling and to present them with an interest rate see-saw could push many of them to the wall."

Kate Barker, Chief Economic Adviser at the Confederation of British Industry and a member of the Chancellor's independent forecasting panel, said that it was too early to talk about a pre-emptive rise in interest rates. "We would not be looking for one this year," she said.

Nationwide, Britain's second biggest building society, said it would have some concern about the effect of a rate rise on housing market confidence, while the Abbey National favoured rates being left alone for now.

Many in the City applauded the Bank's advice but they still believe that the Chancellor may be tempted to cut rates again. Simon Briscoe of Nikko Europe said that the Bank was within its rights to make it hard for the Chancellor to cut rates by voicing its opposition. Nevertheless, he believes that "rates are on hold pending further news but that any move this year is more likely to be down than up".

Kevin Darlington of Hoare Govett said politics and the fact that inflation is set to fall in the short-term may dictate another rate cut. He said: "The cheeky Chancellor may cut rates once more in the hope of repenting at leisure should it help him to secure a fresh five-year term. A more open bust-up between the Chancellor and the Governor of the Bank of England is on the cards."

Speaking on BBC Radio, Roger Bootle, chief economist at Midland Bank, said that the Chancellor had been right to push through a quarter point cut in rates in June. He expected rates to fall.

He said that inflation would fall to well below 2 per cent next year. "This tune from the Bank of England is nothing new. They have been singing it for years. Ever since the pound was ejected from the ERM in 1992, most forecasters have been singing the same tune too, namely that inflation would pick up and interest rates would have to rise. And just about all the time they have been wrong," he said.

But Richard Jeffrey, chief economist at The Charterhouse Group, said that the Bank, where Eddie George is Governor, should be taken seriously and that raising rates in a preemptive strike against higher inflation would boost the credibility of the Government.

Sterling, which has been weakening along with the dollar in recent weeks, was lifted a little yesterday on the Bank's warning. City analysts said that the pound would suffer if the Chancellor were either to cut rates or refuse to raise them when the Bank advises him to do so.

At yesterday's close, the pound's effective index against a basket of currencies had risen to 84.3 compared with 84.0 at Tuesday's close. It gained half a pfennig against the mark and half a cent against the dollar. British government bonds initially lost ground after the Inflation Report was published but then rallied along with US Treasury bonds.

Upturn in orders for manufacturers

BRITISH manufacturing is seeing improved demand for its products but the experience of different regions is still mixed, according to the Confederation of British Industry's regional trends survey, published with Business Strategies Ltd. (writes Janet Bush)

Six out of the 11 regions covered saw growth in orders in the last four months, a clear improvement on the previous survey published in May when five out of those six had seen flat, or falling, new orders. In those regions reporting falling orders in the latest survey, the rate of decline was slower than in the four months to April.

The CBI said that orders are expected to rise in all regions except the East Midlands over the next four months and output is expected to increase in all regions.

Growth in orders has been concentrated in those regions where exports have increased. The survey said export orders are expected to increase in all regions over the coming four months, although firms in the West Midlands, Scotland and the East Midlands remain cautious. In two regions — the North and Yorkshire — political and economic conditions abroad are expected to pose an increasing constraint on export orders.

Domestic prices fell, or were unchanged, in nine out of the 11 regions, evidence of continuing competitive pressures.

BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES

FT-SE 100	3811.1	(+22.7)
Yield	4.10%	
FT-SE A All share	1883.21	(+10.05)
Nikkei	20477.59	(-267.29)
New York:		
Dow Jones	5693.89	(-2.22)*
S&P Composite	661.77	(-0.61)*

US RATE

Federal Funds	5%*	(4½%)
Long Bond	90¹⁸⁄₃₂*	(90⁷⁄₃₂)
Yield	6.74%*	(6.76%)

LONDON MONEY

3-mth Interbank	5¾%	(5¾%)
Liffe long gilt future (Sep)	108¼	(108⅛)

STERLING

New York:		
$	1.5421*	(1.5405)
London:		
$	1.5423	(1.5375)
DM	2.2866	(2.2823)
FFr	7.8068	(7.7675)
SFr	1.8620	(1.8540)
Yen	166.15	(164.40)
£ Index	84.3	(84.0)

DOLLAR

London:		
DM	1.4845*	(1.4835)
FFr	5.0650*	(5.0560)
SFr	1.2095*	(1.2073)
Yen	107.92*	(106.70)
$ Index	96.1	(96.0)

Tokyo close Yen 107.65

NORTH SEA OIL

Brent 15-day (Oct)	$19.10	($19.30)

GOLD

London close	$388.15	($388.45)

* denotes midday trading price

Electricity firms may face tough penalties

By Christine Buckley
Industrial Correspondent

ELECTRICITY companies that fail to deliver competition for household consumers face tough penalties in new licence arrangements drafted by the industry regulator.

Regional companies that delay testing the complicated systems needed to ensure that domestic customers can shop around for electricity will have to put money towards the costs of those companies that established systems early.

The move by Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, comes amid growing concern in the industry that the April 1998 deadline for the delivery of full competition in power will not be met.

Privately, many regional companies say that the systems needed to co-ordinate the ambitious project are not likely to be functional by the date.

While a number of companies suggest that some of their peers are more tardy than others in implementing a framework for competition, most agree that the timetable drafted by the regulator is unlikely to be met.

The Government has told the companies they must deliver competition by April 1998 while Professor Littlechild has been roundly criticised by the industry for not providing sufficient leadership.

The regulator's power to amend the licences gives him a strong weapon against an industry that is no longer centrally organised and has to function as though it were to deliver competition.

Abbey gives half-time dividend boost of 20%

By Robert Miller

ABBEY NATIONAL reported a sparkling 16 per cent increase, to £558 million, in half-year profits and promised a further £50 million reduction in costs after the acquisition of the National & Provincial Building Society.

The former building society turned bank celebrated its record interim results by raising the half-time dividend for more than two million shareholders by 20 per cent, to 8.7p, to be paid on October 7.

In spite of the heavy costs associated with the £1.35 billion N&P takeover, Abbey National reduced its cost to income ratio to 41.6 per cent in the six months to June 30, compared with 44.6 per cent in the same period last year. Lord Tugendhat, chairman of Abbey National, said: "We are on target to achieve a 40 per cent cost-to-income ratio by the end of 1997."

The share price for the distribution of Abbey National shares to former qualifying members of N&P was fixed yesterday at 567.35p. Around £475 million will be distributed in shares to N&P customers, while some £875 million in cash will be credited directly to the accounts of other qualifying members between August 26 and September 2.

Abbey National's 23,000 staff, including those from N&P, will be given the chance to buy 150 shares each under a special five-year executive share option plan with the share price being set tomorrow. Abbey's shares closed at 587p last night, down 14p.

Retail banking business contributed a 2 per cent increase to group profits, to £321 million, while provision for bad and doubtful debt rose to £49 million, compared with £28 million last time. Abbey National said that 65,000 new bank accounts were opened in the first half of the year, along with the issuing of 80,000 new credit cards since launch in February.

On the life assurance side, which comprises both Abbey National Life and Scottish Mutual Assurance, pre-tax profits were up 29 per cent, to £67 million. Consumer credit was up by 153 per cent, at £43 million, reflecting the acquisition of FNFC and a substantial rise in the Abbey National-branded unsecured personal loan assets. The purchase of Wagon Finance, completed on July 2, will add around £350 million in unsecured loan asset.

Abbey National, which now derives 42.5 per cent of its profits from non-traditional activities, announced that its treasury and offshore division produced an 18 per cent rise in profits to £129 million.

Peter Birch, chief executive of Abbey National, called yesterday for a new category of personal financial banks to be launched next year when converting societies such as the Halifax, Woolwich and Alliance & Leicester also become banks. He said: "We are all miles different from banks such as Barclays and NatWest and it will avoid confusion."

Tempus, page 26

Peter Rawlins, who has been working as an independent consultant, is joining Siegel & Gale, the corporate identity arm of Cordiant

Rawlins secures new job

PETER RAWLINS, who was fired as chief executive of the Stock Exchange three-and-a-half years ago, has been made European head of Siegel & Gale, the corporate identity arm of Cordiant. He is expected to be paid in excess of £200,000 a year (Jason Nissé writes).

Mr Rawlins received a pay-off of £175,000 plus a Renault Espace car when he lost his job after the Exchange cancelled its Taurus settlement system at a cost of £75 million to itself and more than £300 million to the City. His successor, Michael Lawrence, lasted only two years in the post before being kicked out last year.

Mr Rawlins, who was known as Napoleon by his staff, has been filling his time as an independent strategic and marketing consultant.

Carlton plans to serve daily diet of TV cookery

By Jason Nissé

FOOD-LOVERS not already sated by a diet of Delia Smith, Rick Sky, Keith Floyd and a host of other chefs performing on British television, will be able to sample cookery programmes for five hours a day from next month.

Carlton Communications, run by Michael Green, is to launch Carlton Food Network, a cable channel available on subscription from noon to 5pm on weekdays.

Half of the country's cable companies have already signed up and Carlton hopes that it will be available to all the UK's 1.4 million cable subscribers when it launches on September 2.

Carlton is investing £5 million in the channel, which is almost as much as it paid for its existing cable channel, Carlton Select, which shows entertainment programmes.

Janet Goldsmith, managing director of Carlton Select, has signed up leading chefs, including Anthony Worrall Thompson and Brian Turner, star of BBC TV's *Ready Steady Cook*, which focuses on haute cuisine.

She is planning a wide range of topics, including how to cook a meal in 30 minutes, celebrities cooking in their own homes, where to buy the best produce and programmes on health.

Carlton is also looking for sponsors but will have to be careful it does not fall foul of the Independent Television Commission, which polices the TV industry. Worries have been expressed about links between TV food experts and the suppliers of their product — there has been criticism of Jancis Robinson putting her name to a range of wines launched by Sainsbury and linked to a BBC programme, *Jancis Robinson's Wine Course*.

The influence of TV chefs is well-known. Delia Smith, who has yet to be signed by Carlton, caused a cranberry shortage after recommending the fruit in one of her TV recipes. Her recent book on winter food, linked to her BBC programme, featured in the bestseller lists before Christmas.

Gilman to appeal over Leeds deal

PETER GILMAN, the deputy chairman of Leeds United, is to continue his fight against Caspian Group's £16.5 million takeover of the FA Carling Premiership football club (Jason Nissé writes).

Mr Gilman yesterday lodged an application to the Court of Appeal, asking for the right to appeal Mr Justice Rattee's ruling two weeks ago throwing out his attempt to block the deal, which was completed last week.

If successful, Mr Gilman, who owns a third of the shares, wants to force Caspian to sell him the rest of the club at the price it paid. Mr Gilman claims the other main shareholders, Bill Fotherby and Leslie Silver, agreed to offer him their shares.

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Standard Chartered boosted by Far East

BY ROBERT MILLER

STANDARD Chartered, the international banking group, yesterday unveiled better than forecast half-year results with a 40 per cent jump in pre-tax profits, to £448 million, after a sharp rise in retail mortgage lending in Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia.

However, Malcolm Williamson, the group chief executive of Standard Chartered, which saw its trading profits increase by 31 per cent, to £402 million, gave warning that such buoyant mortgage lending in its Far East operations was unlikely to be repeated in the second half of the year.

He said: "Intense competition in these markets and government measures to calm property borrowing make it unlikely that this rate of growth can continue."

Standard Chartered, which raised its bad and doubtful debt provision to £44 million, from £30 million in the same period last year, largely to cover its expanding loans and advances portfolio, lifted its interim dividend in the six months to June 30 by 1p, to 4.25p. Shareholders are to receive the half-time payout on October 18.

The bank said that, based on the latest headline earnings, the return on ordinary shareholders' funds had risen to 28 per cent, compared with 25.4 per cent previously.

Earnings per share for Standard Chartered were up by 37 per cent, to 27.3p, while the all-important cost-to-income ratio fell to 55 per cent, against 61 per cent, even though total operating expenses increased to £538 million, from £518 million last time.

Mr Williamson said that Standard Chartered's corporate banking business had made good progress, with an increase in trading profit of 22 per cent. Trading profit from the group's treasury business rose by 16 per cent.

The credit card arm of the bank, which received a £7 million investment boost during the first half of the year, also contributed to the increase in profits, with the total number of Standard Chartered cards in issue rising by more than 35 per cent and with the newly-entered markets of India and Taiwan proving a success.

As well as the 30 per cent increase in trading profits, to £1.8 billion, from the Hong Kong division of Standard Chartered, other Asian countries jointly contributed £115 million, against £100 million previously. The Middle East and South Asia operations chipped in £25 million, compared with £5 million last time, while Africa showed a 24 per cent gain, to £26 million. The UK and the Americas provided £83 million, a 26 per cent rise.

Commenting on the results Patrick Gillam, chairman of Standard Chartered, said: "Our strategy continues to be based on the long-term opportunities presented by our franchises in Asia, Africa and the Middle East. These are enabling us to expand our core businesses and provide a service to corporate, institutional and personal customers which few competitors can match."

Michael Peagram says that Holliday Chemicals will concentrate on its core businesses and seek joint ventures

Holliday's head admits mistakes

MICHAEL Peagram, chairman of Holliday Chemicals, admitted that he took his eye off the ball when the Huddersfield company produced disappointing figures last year (Jason Nissé writes).

Dr Peagram promised that the group would concentrate on its three core businesses, of dyestuffs, pharmaceutical products and pigments, and would seek joint ventures to develop those areas.

Holliday made pre-tax profits of £8.2 million in the half year to June, down from £11 million in the same period last year, but up on the £1.1 million of the second half of 1995.

Earnings per share were 5.4p, down from 7.6p, but an increased dividend of 2.1p (2p) will be paid on October 2.

Granada sells Irish tour firm to Thomson

FROM EILEEN McCABE IN DUBLIN

THOMSON, the British holiday company, yesterday swallowed whole its main rival in the Irish Republic, Budget Travel, after six months of acrimonious competition.

The price that Thomson paid Granada Group for Budget was not disclosed. Budget is Ireland's premier holiday firm, with market share of 30 to 40 per cent and turnover of almost Ir£60 million last year.

Analysts say that Thomson/Budget will have up to 45 per cent of the republic's market, and there is some political pressure for the deal to be put to its competition authority.

Budget Travel was set up in 1975 by one of the republic's most dynamic and colourful businesswomen, Gillian Bowler, who became joint managing director after Granada bought the company for Ir£4.5 million nine years ago. She, along with Harry Sydner, will retain their posts under Thomson ownership.

Earlier this year, Thomson burst onto the Irish market advertising the low cost of its holidays. Budget responded by publicly questioning Thomson's ability to deliver on its promises, and the bitter squabble between the two often made the front pages of the national newspapers. The differences now seem to have been patched up.

Charles Newbolt, Thomson's managing director, says that the deal is a natural progression. "We're number one in the UK. Budget is easily number one in Ireland, so now, instead of fighting each other, we're going to be able to direct our energies to offering what Irish holidaymakers want," he said.

Ms Bowler said that Budget would continue to trade under its own brand, which had built up strong customer loyalty.

Last year, another leading Irish holiday group, JWT, was bought by Falcon, the British company.

COMMERCIAL UNION

RESULTS - 6 MONTHS 1996

Good underlying performance

- Interim dividend increased by 7% to 11.45p.
- Pre-tax operating profit of £216m (1995 £248m) affected by an increase of £56m in weather claims in the US and UK.
- Strong life business growth and life profits up 14% to £117m.
- Good growth in profits from France and the Netherlands.

John Carter, Chief Executive, commenting on the results said:

"A good underlying performance offset the effect of increased weather claims. Excellent progress continues to be made in France and the Netherlands and strong growth was produced by our worldwide life businesses."

	6 months 1996 Unaudited	6 months 1995 Unaudited
Total premium income	£4,569m	£4,426m
Operating profit before taxation	£216m	£248m
Profit on ordinary activities before taxation (i)	£280m	£275m
Profit attributable to shareholders	£178m	£204m
Operating earnings per ordinary share	20.0p	26.4p
Interim dividend per share	11.45p	10.70p
Shareholders' funds	£3,990m	(ii) £4,074m

Note: (i) Includes realised investment gains before taxation of £64m (1995 £39m).
(ii) At 31 December 1995.

The 1996 interim report will be circulated to shareholders on 30 August 1996 and copies can be requested from the Shareholder Relations Service at the address below or by telephoning 0171 283 7500 ext 28866.

Commercial Union plc, St. Helen's, 1 Undershaft, London EC3P 3DQ
Internet: http://www.commercial-union.co.uk/cu

Argent pays £15.3m for retail park

Argent, the property group, has bought Reading Retail Park from the Prudential for £15.3 million. The current rent is £1.2 million, approximately £9.30 per sq ft. Argent's shares were unchanged at 348p, valuing the company at £210 million.

EIS purchase

EIS, the acquisitive engineering group, is paying £1.15 million for RD Taylor & Co, a Glasgow company that distributes chemicals, oils and adhesives for the aircraft and defence industries. EIS said Taylor would complement its existing businesses.

Cowie deal

Cowie Group, the car dealer that has moved into running buses, is paying £4.5 million to acquire Lathom Van Hire. Half the price will be paid in cash, with the remainder a mixture of cash and loan stock.

Trio job

Trio Holdings, the money broking group that lost £11.8 million last year, has appointed John Thomson as finance director. He replaces Peter Moore, who will become a non-executive director from October.

Correction

Allders is buying eight Owen Owen stores for £23 million (Tempus, August 6). This will bring its total number of stores in the UK to 30. Allders department stores turnover last year was £310 million.

Australians to sell more power sites

FROM RACHEL BRIDGE IN SYDNEY

THE state government of Victoria, Australia, intends to sell five more power stations over the next two years in the light of the "wonderful" price of A$2.35 billion (£1.17 billion) that it received from National Power for its Hazelwood power station.

Jeff Kennett, Victoria's premier, admitted yesterday that the Government had valued the 1600MW power station at just A$700 million before the sale, and had even considered closing it a few years ago.

Describing it as the state's oldest and least efficient brown coal-fired station, Mr Kennett said: "Not only have we ensured it will stay open and provide employment, but we have got a wonderful price that will reduce our debt further."

National Power led a consortium made up with the US utilities Pacificorp and Destec Energy to buy the power station, which is situated east of Melbourne and comes with its own brown coal mine. British electricity companies have played a key role in ensuring the huge success of Victoria's huge electricity privatisation — modelled on the UK's sell-off — which has so far reaped A$13.6 billion for the Government, more than twice the amount expected by analysts.

A consortium led by PowerGen paid A$2.4 billion last month for the nearby 1450MW Yallourn power station. Southern Electric and Scottish Power were also early bidders for some of the state's five distribution companies.

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

RJB does U-turn on condemned pit

RJB, the company that bought the bulk of British Coal's pits, yesterday did an about-turn on the future of the last deep coal mine in North Wales. Yesterday morning, RJB announced the immediate closure of the Point of Ayr colliery, near Prestatyn. However, by the afternoon, the company changed its mind and offered the colliery to its workforce for £1.2 million. RJB will leave its equipment in the pit if the miners agree to embark on a Tower-style workers' buyout.

The 200 miners will consider the matter over the next few days. RJB, which says that the 130-year-old pit made a £5 million loss over the past 18 months, believes that they would have a hard task making it viable. Point of Ayr miners keen to accept the challenge may argue that British Coal stated before the Tower buyout in South Wales that Tower was unviable. Tower's miners have since made that pit an internationally recognised success. Point of Ayr had also been condemned by British Coal before a last-minute reprieve in 1992.

Chemical Design float

CHEMICAL DESIGN HOLDINGS, which claims it can help to significantly reduce drug discovery timetables, is to join the Alternative Investment Market with a £1.2 million placing of shares. Durlacher, the company's broker, placed shares at 110p among a range of institutional and private investors. Chemical Design, whose chief executive is Keith Davies, intends to sell its skills in combinatorial chemistry to leading pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies. Dealings in its shares will begin on August 12.

TDG lower at half-year

INTERIM pre-tax profits at Transport Development Group (TDG), the distribution and hire company, fell from £17.3 million to £15.8 million. A sluggish plant hire market and lower profits in the consumer division were blamed. The company declared an interim dividend of 4p, payable September 4, a 1p increase on last year, out of earnings down to 7.42p from 8.19p. TDG said it is re-balancing its dividend between interim and final, so the increased payment does not mean a change in overall dividend policy. Last year it paid a final dividend of 6.5p. Its shares closed down ½p at 205p.

US firm closed down

AR Baron & Co Inc, an American investment firm that was cold-calling UK residents, has been shut down "to protect investors" after a joint investigation by British and American financial watchdogs. The Securities and Investments Board (SIB), the City's senior regulator, said that the US Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) had appointed a trustee to take control and liquidate the firm's assets. The watchdogs had received allegations from investors about unauthorised share trades. The SEC has also commenced proceedings against Andrew Bressman, head of AR Baron.

Adidas sales hit gold

ADIDAS, the sportswear company, made a pre-tax profit of DM249 million (£108.7 million) in the first six months of 1996, a 56 per cent increase over last year. Sales rose by 28 per cent to DM2.24 billion, with particularly strong sales in Asia-Pacific. Robert Louis-Dreyfus, Adidas chairman, said the momentum of the brand was reinforced by Germany's victory in Euro 96, and by the 6,000 athletes who wore Adidas at the Atlanta Olympic Games. Gold medal winners wearing Adidas included Donovan Bailey, the Canadian sprinter who set the world record in the 100 metres.

Flying Flowers dismissal

FLYING FLOWERS, the Jersey flowers-by-post group, has dismissed Christopher Body, the director who ran its Bellbourne subsidiary. Flying Flowers said the dismissal was unconnected to Bellbourne's disappointing first-half results, which were hit by restructuring costs. Strong performances from Flying Flowers' core mail order operation and from DPA, its plants subsidiary, helped the group to pre-tax profits of £1.64 million, up 52 per cent. An interim dividend of 1.36p (1.08p) will be paid on October 25 from earnings of 6.15p per share (4.14p).

Siebe in twin ventures

SIEBE, the engineering giant, is embarking on two joint ventures with GE Fanuc to develop and market industrial automation products. GE Fanuc is itself a joint venture between General Electric of the US and Fanuc of Japan. Siebe's Foxboro subsidiary and GE Fanuc will make process and discrete control products. The two partners are also setting up a new company in Germany, GE Fanuc Eberle Automation, to develop and sell programmable logic controllers, which control the start-up, operation and shutdown of machinery.

Applied shares slump

SHARES in Applied Distribution fell 53p to 92p after the contract distributor warned the stock market that its final results would be sharply below last year's. The company made a provision of £1.5 million to cover losses on a contract. Group pre-tax profits were £240,000 (£2.23 million) despite a 54 per cent increase in sales to £28.1 million. Analysts cut annual pre-tax profit forecasts from £5.5 million to £3 million. The interim dividend stays at 1.5p, payable on October 25. Earnings fell 1.6p to 3.3p.

Crown Eyeglass rises

SHARES in Crown Eyeglass rose 25p to 235p yesterday after the USM-quoted spectacle maker said it planned to use its £1.01 million cash to buy back up to 15 per cent of its shares. The group, which lifted its pre-tax profits by 56 per cent to £929,000 in the year to March 31, said it intended to move to the Alternative Investment Market in October. Success in Sweden helped sales by 44 per cent to £10.5 million. A final dividend of 8p will be paid on October 17, increasing the total to 12p (10.5p). Earnings grew sharply to 38.9p (24.4p) a share.

Hultman reinstated as Leonard leaves

Eurotherm battle ends

BY ALASDAIR MURRAY

THE bruising boardroom battle at Eurotherm, the electronic components group, was resolved yesterday with the reinstatement of Claes Hultman as chief executive and the resignation of Dr Jack Leonard, co-founder and chairman of the company.

Dr Leonard, who has been with the company for 31 years, is to be replaced by Sir James Hann, currently chairman of Hickson, the chemicals company.

The battle for control of Eurotherm erupted at the beginning of July when Dr Leonard, with the support of the non-executive directors, forced Mr Hultman to resign after disagreements over the direction and management structure of the company. But the company's leading institutional backers intervened in support of Mr Hultman and have helped to construct the new agreement, in which Dr Leonard will leave.

Mr Hultman said he was "delighted" to be back at the company, adding that the executive team was committed to continuing the company's growth. Mr Hann is expected to review the board, which includes two non-executive directors who voted for Mr Hultman's departure, although further resignations are unlikely in the short term.

Mr Hultman, who is also non-executive chairman of Wembley, has been credited with turning Eurotherm round in the five years since he joined the company. Profits have grown, from £5 million to £34 million last year, while the share price has risen from 130p to a high of 645p. The shares rose 15p to close at 565p yesterday.

TOURIST RATES

	Bank Buys	Bank Sells
Australia $	2.09	1.93
Austria Sch	17.10	15.60
Belgium Fr	50.11	45.61
Canada $	2.218	2.058
Cyprus Cyp£	0.744	0.689
Denmark Kr	9.41	8.61
Finland Mkk	7.48	6.83
France Fr	8.19	7.54
Germany Dm	2.44	2.23
Greece Dr	381	356
Hong Kong $	12.54	11.54
Iceland	113	93
Ireland Pt	1.01	0.93
Israel Shk	5.24	4.59
Italy Lira	2449	2294
Japan Yen	179.40	163.40
Malta	0.592	0.537
Netherlds Gld	2.718	2.488
New Zealand $	2.39	2.17
Norway Kr	10.43	9.63
Portugal Esc	246.00	227.50
S Africa Rd	7.49	6.69
Spain Pta	200.50	187.50
Sweden Kr	10.83	10.03
Switzerland Fr	2.00	1.82
Turkey Lira	132770	124770
USA $	1.638	1.508

Rates for small denomination bank notes only as supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

هكذا من الاصل

☐ Banks ride the Far East boom ☐ Airtours sees supply and demand balance ☐ Scottish grouse seek EU subsidy

Hot property in Hong Kong

☐ ONE can only hope they are not whistling in the dark, these banks who are convinced that Hong Kong will be as profitable in a year's time as it was a year ago. But investors might do well to wonder.

The banks are having a good interim reporting season, but HSBC, owner of the Midland, and Standard Chartered stand out from the pack. What has buoyed both up is their profits from the Hong Kong residential market. HSBC saw a 25 per cent rise in profits from its Hong Kong banking operation; Standard Chartered's chief executive, Malcolm Williamson, said that Hong Kong "remains a key contributor to group profits", as well he might. Trading profits from the colony rose by 34 per cent on a 12-month comparison, to £153 million.

Profits from home loans rose by 38 per cent in the first half, the main growth areas being Hong Kong, Singapore and Malaysia. Intense overheating on the last two property markets has prompted government moves to calm property borrowing, and Standard accepts that the growth enjoyed so far cannot continue. But the bank says it will be business as usual in Hong Kong once the Chinese gerontocracy takes over next year, even claiming that the end of British rule would actually benefit Hong Kong's standing as a world financial centre.

The omens for residential property, however, are not good. Prices were largely static during the 1980s but rose sharply thereafter, according to figures from one large surveyor. Between 1989 and 1995 values increased by almost three and a half times. No property market can sustain such growth forever, and one like Hong Kong that is staring into the 1997 abyss must accept the strong chance of a serious correction.

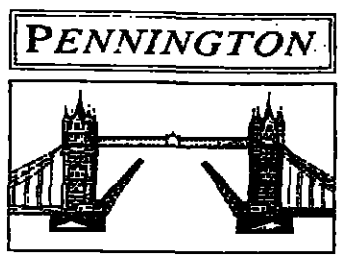
In this country we have learnt since 1989 just what such a correction means. Standard insists its mortgages on residential property are limited to 50 to 60 per cent of the value of the property. But consider this scenario. Civil unrest sparks a military crackdown, and sends property values plunging. Too many Hong Kong citizens in negative equity have no financial stake in staying, and every reason politically to leave. So the property market plunges further . . .

The counter-argument is that Peking, owning large tracts of land in the colony already and with its half a dozen regional exchanges in chaos, will need access to outside capital raised through Hong Kong and sees every reason to preserve stability. The word the optimists use a lot is pragmatism.

But Peking has always tempered pragmatism with rigid authoritarianism. Investors can have no more idea how the Chinese will react to any defiance after 1997 than did those Chinese citizens who opposed the tanks in Tiananmen Square.

Welcome break for holiday firms

☐ PICKY lot, aren't you? You don't like the Greek islands because they aren't as cheap as the Costa Brava. You won't go near a French gite again, not after the last time when the plumbing packed up and the locals spent the fortnight gawping over the cypress hedge. Sri Lanka is full of Tamil Tigers, Florida is full of muggers. Even the cheap joys of camping are starting to pall.



The travel trade says that in a year when there are fewer and more expensive holidays on sale, the public is becoming more selective. But the firms themselves are not complaining, and neither is the City. Airtours yesterday announced a 16 per cent fall in bookings but its shares rose on the stock market. The company and its rivals have arrived at their ideal destination, where supply matches demand.

Last year it is doubtful if a single tour operator made any money from pure package holidays; instead the profits came from the travel agency arms they mostly own. The number of holidays on offer was cut this summer by 1.5 million, the average price rose by £60, and all those people who travelled on £99 packages to the Med last year will have to stay at home.

The trade is promising not to add extra capacity into the market for next summer, but the industry does not have a good track record on self restraint. In the past, market share has been all, even at the expense of profits, which is why the capacity cuts this year were so unusual.

There is one reason why they may again hold the line. The Office of Fair Trading report into their ownership of travel agencies may go either way, but firms will certainly have to be more careful about informing the consumer. A higher proportion of profits in future may have to come from the package holidays themselves, rather than the selling of them.

The moor the merrier

☐ SCOTLAND is clearly ready to be an independent small nation within the European Union, with all the Franco-German bribery that brings. Just four days before the Glorious Twelfth — epicentre of Britain's silly season — a report from the Game Conservancy Scottish Research Trust issues a dire warning that grouse-shooting is at risk without subsidies from taxpayers.

Shocked Scottish landowners have found that, in spite of heavy losses, their moors do not get Whitehall support or qualify for European Union grants. London is notoriously mean towards basic industries. So Brussels is surely the place to demand subsidies, in the greater cause of harmonising avian death across this great continent of ours.

A lyrical Scottish Landowners Federation spokesman enthused: "The grouse in the heather, the salmon in the river, the stag on the hill, should all be part of the wild life in unspoilt country that are an attraction to make a great Scottish holiday". Quite so. Wigan Wakes Week would never be the same without them.

The sport has, it seems, been in steep decline because someone has been killing the birds. In five years to 1994, income fell 60 per cent while costs rose 40 per cent, squeezing finances to the thickness of an anorexic game chip. Field sports, says the SLF, should be supported along with agriculture and forestry.

Better sing Brussels a protectionist tune. Scottish grouse are being undercut by Eastern birds. The nightmare of cutprice Germans jumping into four-wheel drive Dacias and heading for slaughter in Transylvania should bring out EU wallets. If not, rely on lottery money.

Wrong kind of rail

☐ NO one emerges with any credit from Labour's latest rail privatisation "scandal", the sale of Eversholt Leasing. Labour's Glenda Jackson has fingered the likes of Candover Investments, the Royal Bank of Scotland and Hanson, for whom in a previous incarnation she made a well-remembered commercial, as making huge donations to the Tory cause and then picking up the company on the cheap.

Alas, Labour seems to think that RBS owns Legal & General, another donor to Tory funds. Furthermore, Hanson has no connection with Eversholt except through a former director who is chairman of the latter in a private capacity. Careless; except that the information was handed to Labour by the Department of Transport itself. It may be August, but there must be someone still awake out there.

CU plays down notion of bid for rival insurer

By Marianne Curphey

COMMERCIAL UNION is predicting further consolidation in the insurance sector following the merger of Royal Insurance and Sun Alliance.

However, at the presentation of yesterday's interim results, Peter Foster, the composite's finance director, played down suggestions that CU was about to acquire a rival insurer. "CU is not an acquisitive company by nature and the candidate would have to be a good business at the right price and fit with our existing strategy," he said. CU's current strategy was to develop the life business internationally and improve the quality of its general insurance portfolio.

CU announced that it was increasing its dividend in spite of a dent in first-half profits caused by weather losses and bomb blasts. Pre-tax operating profit fell by £32 million, to £216 million, in the six months to June 30 after weather claims in the United States and the UK increased by £56 million. The Docklands and Manchester bombs caused a further £9 million loss.

Strong performances from the composite's operations in France and the Netherlands failed to offset the general insurance losses, and profits for the general insurance sector were £173 million for the six-month period, compared with £236 million last year.

However, the life sector performed strongly: the worldwide life operations, which account for 43 per cent of business, were up 14 per cent, to £117 million, with a particularly good performance from Delta Lloyd in the Netherlands. Overall, new life annual premiums increased by 30 per cent and single premiums by 10 per cent.

John Carter, chief executive, said that CU was "actively looking to develop new life operations, with the emphasis on Eastern Europe and Asia".

Mr Foster said he expected the life sector to grow quickly, particularly in Europe, and could envisage a time when life business accounted for a larger proportion of premium income. He did not rule out the acquisition of a mutual life insurer in the UK, but said prices were high at present.

CU believes that private motor premiums in the UK may rise slightly this year, while household rates have fallen 10 per cent and commercial rates are, on average, 5 per cent lower than for the same period last year.

The interim dividend has been increased from 10.7p per share to 11.45p, although the earnings per share has slipped from 26.4p to 20p. At June 30, Commercial Union had worldwide total assets of £57 billion, and additional funds under management of £10 billion.

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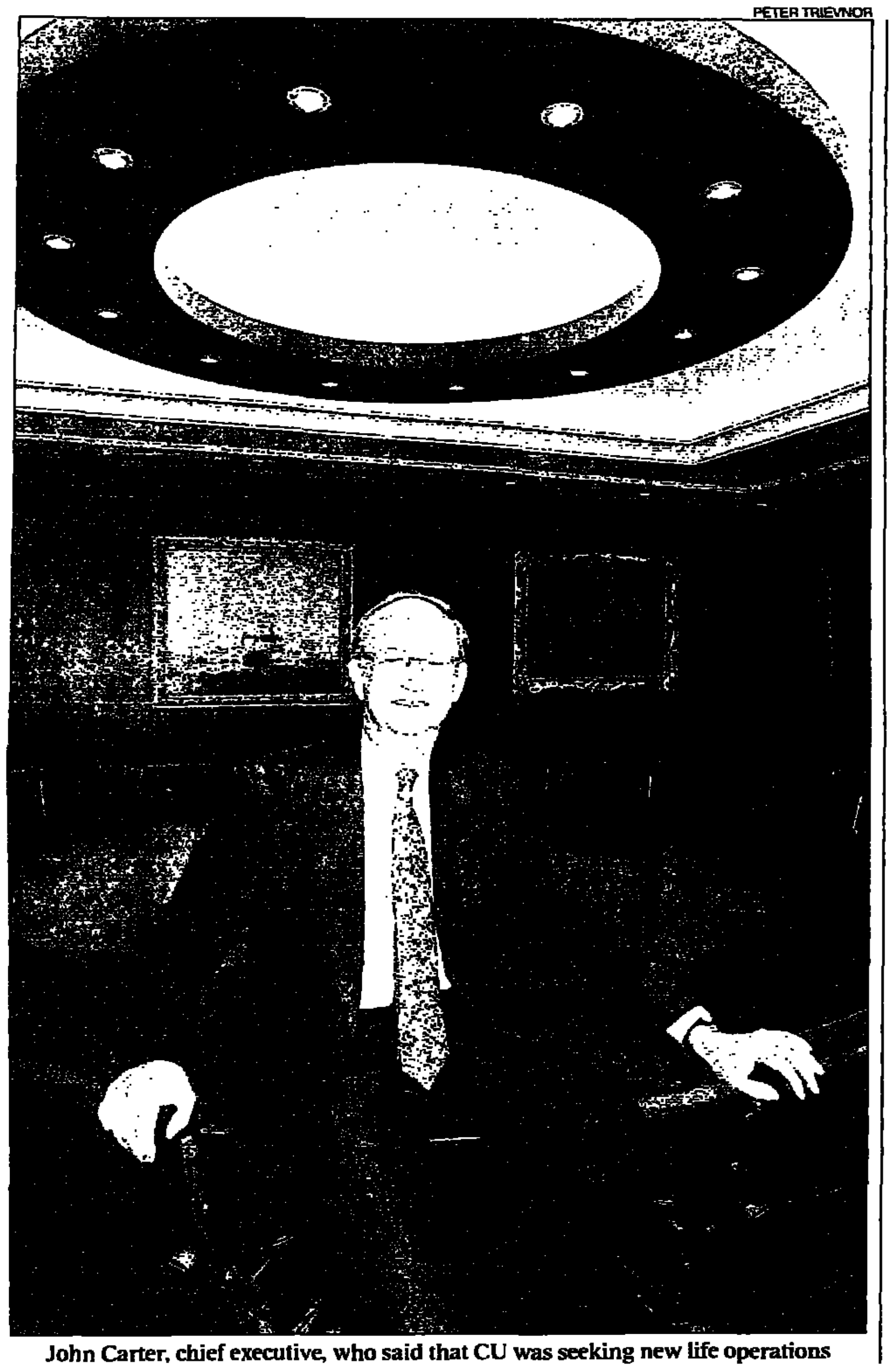
PETER TRIEVNOR



John Carter, chief executive, who said that CU was seeking new life operations

Salomon sells mortgage arm

By Anne Ashworth

SALOMON, the American banking group, has ended its ill-fated foray into the UK home loans market with the sale of The Mortgage Corporation Group (TMC). First National, the Republic of Ireland's largest building society, is paying £53 million for the 10-year-old business, a centralised lender without a branch network.

The next stop for the ambitious First National may be the acquisition of a UK building society. John Smyth, chief executive, also said that he did not rule out becoming a bank.

TMC, which has 25,000 borrowers, will be merged with Mortgage Trust. First National's existing UK subsidiary based in Epsom, Surrey. The move trebles the size of the society's UK assets to £1.7 billion, but First National will still have less than one per cent of the UK market. The Mortgage Corporation name, which has grown synonomous with the sometimes unsympathetic treatment of borrowers in arrears, will disappear. The current Office of Fair Trading investigation into TMC's methods will, however, continue. This was provoked by complaints from 300 TMC customers.

Although First National is paying £33 million more than TMC's book value, Mr Smyth believes that he is getting "good value for money, with potential for earnings enhancement." He said: "TMC's loan book has a good geographic spread and the arrears situation is satisfactory, with the bulk being covered by indemnity insurance." The variable mortgage rate for TMC customers is 7.99 per cent, one per cent more than the 6.99 per cent charged by Mortgage Trust.

GKN warns of tough times on the Continent

By Christine Buckley, Industrial Correspondent

GKN, the defence, automotive and industrial group, yesterday gave warning that poor sales in continental Europe for its automotive parts are likely to continue.

But the company, which owns Westland helicopters, said it is more optimistic of the potential of other markets, such as the Far East. A generally flat showing from its automotive division held back interim profits bouyed by a sound performance in aerospace and industrial interests such as Chep, its jointly owned pallet business in Australia.

The company pushed up pre-tax profits 11.3 per cent to £181 million in the first half of 1996. But its shares languished as the market struck a note of caution over the group's mixed prospects.

GKN, which last year finished a programme of divesting itself of peripheral businesses, is now lining up a spending programme to bolster its three main divisions of automotive and agritechnical products, aerospace and special vehicles and industrial services.

Sir David Lees, chairman, said the company has a war chest of at least £500 million to spend on bolt-on acquisitions and expansion of existing operations.

GKN's spending power would come from its cash pile of £252 million and the prospect of gearing up the balance sheet. Top of the list for development would be activities such as the Chep pallet business and the movement of its automotive driveline division into new areas.

The share of profits from automotive and agritechnical products fell to 57 per cent (68 per cent), while aerospace and special vehicles rose to 22 per cent (15 per cent). Industrial services grew to 22 per cent (17 per cent). Sir David said automotives may see some further decline but would not fall below a 50 per cent contribution to group profits.

The interim dividend, payable October 18, was lifted 9.7 per cent to 9.6p.

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Liberty Int in pension venture

By Sarah Cunningham

LIBERTY International, the South African-controlled financial services group, is planning to launch a pensions company this year to sell its products through shopping centres such as Lakeside, in Essex, and the MetroCentre, Gateshead.

Liberty owns 72 per cent of Capital Shopping Centres, which operates the MetroCentre, Lakeside, and the Glades, in Bromley, and the Harlequin, Watford. Liberty has cash of £556 million after selling its half-share in Sun Life last year.

The new company will also look to enter the corporate pensions market. Its launch will be in the last quarter of this year, David Fischel, Liberty managing director, said. Liberty will invest an initial £50 million in the pensions company.

A strong performance by CSC, which reported sharply higher profits this week, fuelled a 12 per cent rise in Liberty's pre-tax profits, to £56.1 million, in the half year to June 30. A 7.25p interim dividend, up from 6.6p, is due on October 8.

Fewer breaks add up for Airtours

By Marianne Curphey

SHARES in Airtours, the tour operator, rose 20p to a 52-week high of 551p yesterday after the company said that cutting the number of holidays on sale and raising prices appeared to be paying off. The optimism also lifted the share prices of First Choice and Inspirations, two rival operators.

UK tour operating profits for the three months to June 30 were up £3.9 million to £10.9 million. Harry Coe, financial director, said holidays were currently selling for an average £290 per person, compared with £230 this time last year during the worst summer trading for ten years.

Just over one million holidays are estimated to be unsold at present. In July and August last year nearly three million were dumped on the market at very low prices, most operators failing to break even on many holidays.

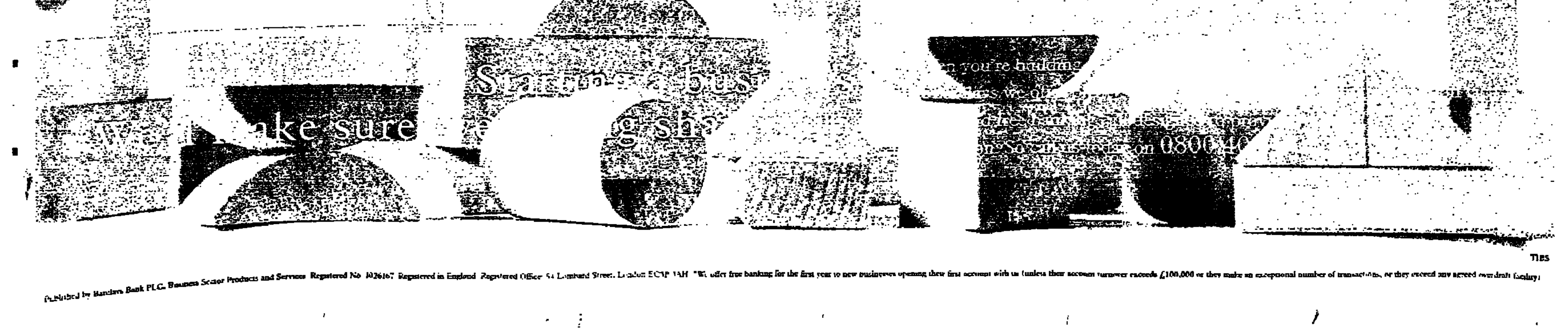
In order to prevent a repeat of 1995, UK tour operators this year raised prices by 9 per cent and cut capacity by 10 per cent. Around 8.5 million holidays were on sale at the beginning of 1996, 1.5 million fewer than last year.

Airtours said summer 1996 bookings were 16 per cent below the previous year, although some of this was due to the reduction in capacity. Profit before tax for the quarter was up 47 per cent to £19.7 million (1995: £13.4 million) on turnover of £485.2 million (1995: £361.6 million).

Profits from Airtours' Scandinavian operations were up by £1.7 million to £5.6 million and the company is stepping up its expansion into Canada by buying Alba, a large Toronto regional tour operator for £10 million in cash. It already owns Sunquest Vacations in Canada.

Mr Coe said bookings for 1996-97 showed significant increases over the previous year and he expected rival tour operators to maintain the number of holidays on sale for next year at 8.5 million, rather than increasing them.

Carnival, the largest cruise company in the world, holds a 29.6 per cent stake in Airtours and the City believes it will eventually make a full bid.



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STOCK MARKET — KAREN ZAGOR

Reuters shares surge on talk of Reed takeover bid

REUTERS led blue chip stocks higher yesterday after rumours that Reed Elsevier, the Anglo-Dutch publishing and information group, is planning to announce a major acquisition or merger plan today when it releases its mid-year results. Reuters closed 22p higher at 729p, with the rumours more than compensating for the stock going ex-dividend.

Pearson, which was also the subject of the Reed Elsevier rumour, firmed 9p to 654p. The shares have been strong since Monday's interim results and news that Pearson had sold its Westminster Press business to Newsquest for more than expected. **Reed International**, which jointly owns Reed Elsevier, added 21p to 1,150p. Reed is expected to unveil solid pre-tax profits when it posts its interim results today.

Elsewhere attention turned to the Bank of England quarterly *Inflation Report*. The market has been waiting all week for the report, but when it arrived traders found they had already anticipated most of the comments. The report's cautious view of interest rates left traders unmoved.

Ahead of the Bank of England report, the FT-SE 100 moved above 3,800. It held on to its gains throughout the afternoon to end the day at 3,811.1, up 22.7 points.

Equities might have ended even higher, but some mid-morning losses on Wall Street took the wind out of the UK market's sails.

"The UK market could get squeezed higher, but I don't trust it," said one trader, noting that volume was not substantial. "It's a very tricky market and things could move very quickly when more people come in."

Blenheim, the exhibitions company, languished at 413p, down 4p. Earlier in the year shares soared on speculation that Reed was about to bid for the company, but so far Reed has not confirmed its interest.

Also in the publishing arena **Metal Bulletin** added 63p to 1063p, setting a high for the year, after reporting a 39 per cent improvement in first-half profits. **Emap**, which has a 21 per cent stake in Metal Bulletin, rose 22.5p to 685p.

Share buybacks continued to be a trading theme. **Crown Eyeglass** was one of the biggest risers of the day, climbing 25p or 12 per cent to 235p after revealing that it hopes to gain approval for a 15 per cent share buyback.

On the other hand, the absence of a buyback contributed to a 14p decline in **Abbey National** shares to 587p. Although Abbey posted a 16 per cent improvement in first-half profits, news that the bank does not plan to embark on a buyback programme hurt prices. Traders also noted that the stock was subject to profit-taking. Abbey this week completed its merger with N&P, the old National and Provincial building society.

Profit-taking also took a bite out of **Standard Chartered** shares, which fell 13p to 699p. The company's interim figures were at the top end of expectations, prompting several analysts to increase earnings forecasts for the year.

Also in the banking sector, shares in **Barclays** continued to benefit from Tuesday's announcement of another share buyback operation. It closed at a new high of 900p, up from its previous high of 872.5p a day earlier. Meanwhile **HSBC** continued to benefit from its Monday interim results. Shares added 17p to 1,155p.

There was good news for **British Petroleum**, which had been awaiting European Union approval for its planned marketing partnership with Mobil, the US oil giant. News that the deal had been approved added 3.5p to BP's share price to 606.5p.

Airtours advanced 20p to a year high of 551p after reporting sharp gains in third-quarter profits and noting that winter bookings were significantly ahead of last year. The company's strong interim results prompted analysts to upgrade their earnings forecasts for the year. Analysts were also bullish about the company's purchase of Canada's Alba Tours International, which is expected to make solid contributions.

ICI moved 10p higher to 796p. Some traders attributed the rise to rumours of a pending share buyback, while others noted that there was speculation that ICI might merge with a German company, perhaps Schering.

Bids were in the air in the water sector, where traders noted that a number of stocks have good yields and were offering good value. **Severn Trent**, up 18p at 597p, and **Wessex Water**, up 8p to 348p, were among the candidates mentioned.

Electricity companies also moved on expectations of more bids. **East Midlands** advanced 14p to 597p, **London Electricity** was 18p higher at 638p and **Southern** gained 21p to 682p. **Northern Electric** firmed 14p to 548p after announcing plans to increase its dividend by at least 7 per cent until 2000.

Volatility continued at **British Biotech**, formerly the stock market darling. Yesterday profit-taking took its toll and the shares eased 6p to 229p. An analyst's "sell" rating on the stock contributed to the erosion.

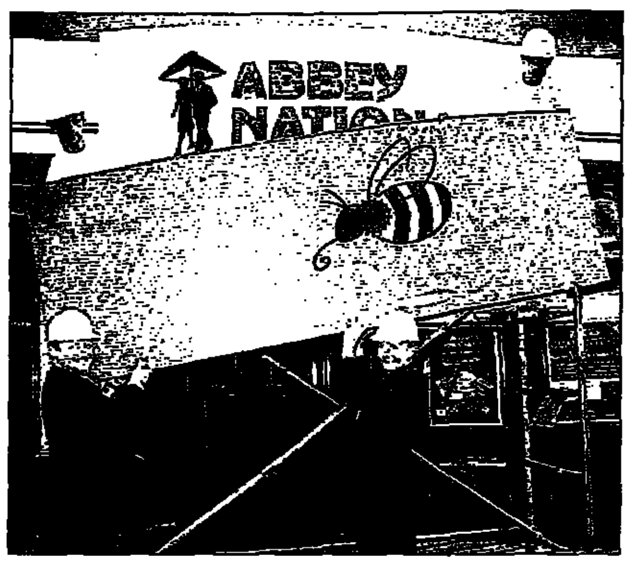
Among other biotechnology issues, **Chiroscience** slid 11p to 369p as bid hopes flagged, while **Celltech** lost 10p to 540p.

Dampened bid expectations also led to a 4p drop at **Cadbury Schweppes** to 516p.

☐ **GILT-EDGED**: The Bank of England's latest verdict on inflation hit the short end of the market, leading to a slight flattening out of the yield curve.

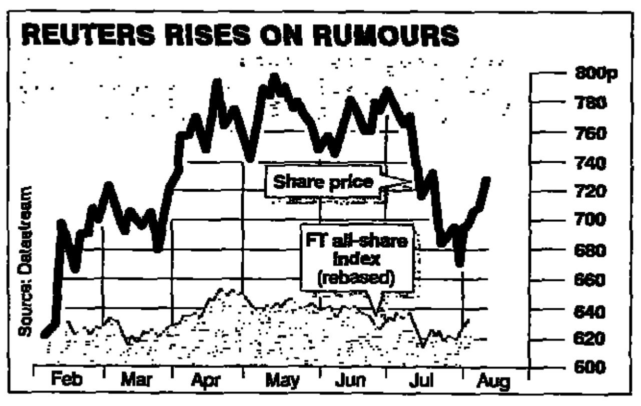
In the futures pit, the September series of the long gilt finished £⅛ higher at £108¼ with volume of 45,000. The Treasury 8 per cent 2000 eased £1/32 to £103⅛, while the Treasury 8 per cent 20015 added £5/32 to £99½.

☐ **NEW YORK**: A morning rally on Wall Street gave way to profit-taking and by midday the Dow Jones industrial average was 2.22 points lower at 5,693.89.



All change: Lord Tugendhat, Abbey chairman, left, and Peter Birch, chief executive, rename a branch. Abbey shares fell 14p

Shares in Trocadero hit a high of 74p, up 1p, as rumours intensified that Coca-Cola and Pepsi were seeking to get involved. The London Trocadero centre is scheduled to open Sega World, a virtual reality theme park, next month. Shares in the company have traded as low as 45.95p this year.



MAJOR INDICES

New York (midday):

Dow Jones	5693.89 (-2.22)
S&P Composite	661.77 (-0.61)

Tokyo:

Nikkei Average	20477.59 (-267.29)

Hong Kong:

Hang Seng	11127.54 (-7.06)

Amsterdam:

EOE Index	553.44 (+5.65)

Sydney:

AO	2221.8 (-1.1)

Frankfurt:

DAX	2531.89 (+9.42)

Singapore:

Straits	2134.51 (+5.15)

Brussels:

General	9497.79 (+34.31)

Paris:

CAC-40	1996.74 (-2.60)

Zurich:

SKA Gen	769.50 (+7.10)

London:

FT 30	2787.8 (+17.5)
FT 100	3811.1 (+22.7)
FT-SE Mid 250	4309.0 (+15.5)
FT-SE-A 350	1906.0 (+10.4)
FT-SE Eurotrack 100	1641.25 (-0.31)
FT A All-Share	1883.21 (+10.05)
FT Non Financials	1983.47 (+10.35)
FT Fixed Interest	113.22 (-0.04)
FT Govt Secs	93.50 (+0.11)
Bargains	32737
SEAQ Volume	808.9m
USM (Datastrm)	204.13 (+0.40)
US$	1.5422 (+0.0055)
German Mark	2.2868 (+0.0054)
Exchange Index	84.3 (+0.3)
Bank of England official close (4pm)	
£:ECU	1.2032
£:SDR	1.0562
RPI	153.0 Jun (2.1%) Jan 1987=100
RPIX	152.6 Jun (2.8%) Jan 1987=100

RECENT ISSUES

AND International	72	...
Alizyme	51	- 2
Allied Carpets	234	...
Alumax	2009½	- 71½
Atkins WS	238	+ 5
BATM Advnd Cms	131	+ 1
British Engy (100)	102½	- ¾
Digital Animtns	103	+ 12
Drings of Bath	4	...
Electrnc Retail	148	...
Fayrewood	48	...
HIT Entertain (163)	189	+ 2
Hat Pin	63	...
Hoare Govett 1000 C	97	...
Life Numbers	13	- 1
Life Numbers Wts	5	- 1
Lotteryking Wts	1½	...
NECA	17	...
Plasmon	182	+ 7
Pordum Foods Wts	1¼	...
Robert Walters	127	+ 10
SCI Entertainment	158	...
Schroder Em Ctrs C	357	+ 3
Schroder Emg C Wts	36	+ 1
Schroder Emg C	92	...
Selector	68	...
Therap Antibodes	474	...
UNO	168	...
West 175 Enter	125	...
Xavier Computer	10	...

RIGHTS ISSUES

Inspirations n/p (100)	8	+ 4½
Ivern Wst Uts n/p (40)	5	- 2
Lorien n/p (250)	10	...
Old English n/p (100)	16	+ 2
Scot Power n/p (250)	58	...
Sema Gp n/p (595)	141	...
Shaftesbury n/p (125)	12	...
Synd Cap Tst n/p (110)	1½	...

MAJOR CHANGES

RISES:

Filtronic Com	240p (+10p)
Airtours	551p (+20p)
Caird Group	425p (+15p)

FALLS:

Chiroscience	363p (-17p)
Abbey National	587p (-14p)

Closing Prices Page 29

TEMPUS

New habits

ABBEY NATIONAL is no longer safe as houses. It is as safe as planes, trains, and even satellites and petrochemical plants. The expansion of Abbey's treasury operation is breathtaking to behold. Faced with a mortgage market under threat from the big four clearing banks and assorted demutualising building societies, Abbey decided to diversify, and, from a standing start seven years ago, it has built up a leasing portfolio worth £3.8 billion. In the first half, the treasury operation, which now boasts a staff of 300, contributed about a quarter of Abbey's group profits.

Fearful of an Allied-Lyons or Barings type disaster, some timid investors may not warm to the idea of exponential growth in the treasury department. Unfortunately, Abbey is only too alive to their concerns. Last year, the mortgage bank was on the verge of bidding for one of the rolling stock companies sold in the rail privatisation. Had it done so, Abbey shareholders might have been the beneficiaries of the colossal windfall enjoyed by the Porterbrook management buyout team when their company was acquired by Stagecoach.

Abbey was doubtless worried that buying a train set after acquiring the National & Provincial building society might be seen by City dullards as a deal too far. Still, the bank is making money owning the odd satellite orethylene cracker plant, using its balance sheet and tax capacity to extract the 30 to 50 basis-point profit margin from an income stream. Anyone still worried about risk might notice that Abbey has pulled back from the hot mortgage markets while others fight for customers.

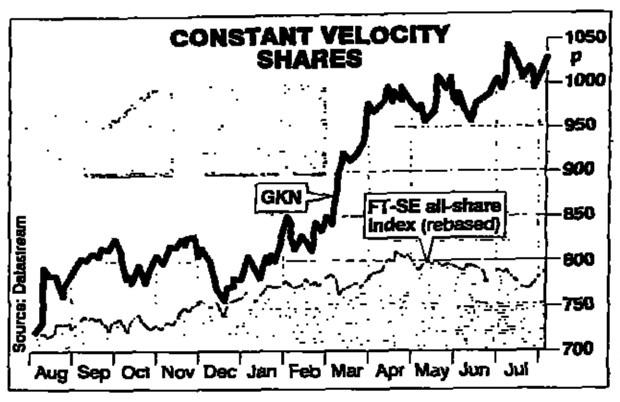
GKN

MOTOR component manufacturers make a great fuss these days about the need to be a tier-one supplier. Broadly speaking, that means being someone that ships bits of cars and trucks directly into assembly plants, where they are then stuck into place.

It is useful, therefore, to be reminded of the risks in being so closely linked to one industry. GKN makes almost 60 per cent of its profit from selling constant velocity joints and drive shafts for cars and trucks. Scarcely suprising, then, that profits fell in the first half as vehicle manufacturers destocked.

That situation is being corrected — car and truck production should be well up in the US and the UK in the second half, but cars in Europe will be only marginally ahead. In commercial and agricultural vehicles production is likely to be down. Overall, GKN can expect only a slight pick-up in demand.

Fortunately, the company is enjoying a strong pick-up in aerospace and defence, which should continue, and it has plenty of cash to build up its industrial services business, a market less prone to cyclical downturn. Renting wooden pallets sounds deadly dull, but GKN increased the profits of its services division 40 per cent in the first half. From industrial pallets, GKN hopes to expand into recycled food containers for supermarkets. The company is not lacking opportunties.



CU

RUMOUR is rife over which of the insurance composites will be the next to announce a coupling. Commercial Union has been linked with a number of fellow insurers, and Guardian Royal Exchange, the weakest of the bunch, is touted as the favourite target.

A merger would, however, require a change of policy for CU, which has been building up its life insurance business worldwide in an attempt to balance the volatile profits of general insurance. CU's life business now accounts for more than 40 per cent of total premium income.

Returns in the UK life industry are showing signs of improvement after 18 months of torpor. Delta Lloyd, the Netherlands life assurer, has returned healthy profits and CU is expanding into Pakistan and Poland.

The strategy has worked for CU at a time when general insurance rates have been falling; pension and life products offer a steady income stream without the catastrophic losses from hurricanes and bombs.

If CU wants to buy profits, it has enough spare cash for a small UK mutual life insurer. That would provide growth without the burden of the additional staff and computers that Royal Sun Alliance admits is costing it £175 million and months of hard work. Paying a goodwill premium for the privilege of sacking someone else's staff makes little business sense.

Holliday Chems

HOLLIDAY Chemicals has not been a happy place to be recently. After two profits warnings and the loss of a chief executive, followed by the finance director, the company's disgruntled shareholders are in need of some reassurance.

The half-year figures show a recovery from last year's dreadful second half, but taxable profits of just £8.1 million still lag those of a year ago. Dyestuffs are in the doldrums and although the generic pharmaceuticals business is performing well, City analysts are worried about the medium-term prospects of a business heavily dependent on large drug companies.

That leaves Michael Peagram, the chairman, with a strong incentive to get it right. Not only does he own 20 per cent of the company, but the rest of the shareholders are unlikely to tolerate further disappointment.

Rapid expansion caused him to take his eye off the ball, but he is now concentrating on joint ventures to boost the international sales of the three core businesses.

With £16 million of profits expected this year, the shares, up 6p at 136p, are on a sub-sector rating, which, given Holliday's history, is unlikely to change much.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

COMMODITIES

LONDON COMMODITY EXCHANGE

COCOA

Sep	1007-1006	Dec	1072-1068
Dec	1021-1020	Mar	1090-1080
Mar	1032-1031	May	1100-1085
May	1041-1040	Jul	1110-1095
Jul	1053-1052		
Sep	1065-1064	Volume:	5711

ROBUSTA COFFEE ($)

Sep	1558-1555	May	1420-1415
Nov	1521-1520	Jul	1430-1400
Jan	1483-1480	Sep	1415-1395
Mar	1445-1440	Volume:	1868

WHITE SUGAR (FOB)

Reuters		May	335.2-34.5
Spot: 371.0		Aug	335.2-34.5
Oct	346.5-45.0	Oct	325.5-24.0
Dec	343.0-42.0	Dec	326.5-24.4
Mar	338.5-37.5	Volume:	1511

MEAT & LIVESTOCK COMMISSION

Average fatstock prices at representative markets on August 6

(p/kg lw)	Pig	Sheep	Cattle
GB:	105.09	90.95	96.91
(+/-)	-0.79	+12.28	+2.16
Eng/Wales	104.72	104.80	95.71
(+/-)	-0.55	-3.02	+2.10
(%)	+17.0	+1.0	-31.0
Scotland:	106.90	99.41	100.44
(+/-)	-4.26	-5.14	+2.20
(%)	+36.0	+50.0	-27.0

ICIS-LOR (London 6.00pm)

CRUDE OILS ($/barrel FOB)

Brent Physical	19.55	-0.55
Brent 15 day (Sep)	19.45	-0.10
Brent 15 day (Oct)	19.10	-0.10
W Texas Intermediate (Sep)	20.95	-0.15
W Texas Intermediate (Oct)	20.45	-0.15

PRODUCTS ($/MT)

Spot CIF NW Europe (prompt delivery)

	Bid	Offer
Premium Unld	202 (n/c)	204 (n/c)
Gasoil EEC	182 (-1)	184 (-1)
3.5 Fuel Oil	92 (-2)	94 (-2)
Naphtha	191 (+3)	195 (+3)

IPE FUTURES (GNI Ltd)

GAS OIL

Aug	179.25-79.50	Nov	174.75 SLR
Sep	177.00-77.25	Dec	172.75-73.50
Oct	176.00-76.50		Vol: 13517

BRENT (6.00pm)

Sep	19.45-19.46	Dec	18.34 BID
Oct	19.12-19.14	Jan	18.05 SLR
Nov	18.74 BID		Vol: 32581

GNI LONDON GRAIN FUTURES

WHEAT (close £/t)		BARLEY (close £/t)	
Sep	110.45	Sep	100.65
Nov	112.00	Nov	103.65
Jan	113.95	Jan	105.65
Mar	115.90	Mar	107.90
May	117.90	May	109.65
Volume:	313	Volume:	130

POTATO (£/t)

	Open	Close
Nov	unq	85.0
Mar		110.0
Apr	105.0	93.3
		Volume: 86

RUBBER (No 1 RSS Cif p/k)

Sep 89.75-90.25

BIFFEX (GNI Ltd $10/pt)

	High	Low	Close
Aug 96	—	—	1091
Sep 96	1140	1137	1137
Oct 96	—	—	1225
Jan 97	—	—	1225
Vol: 12 lots			Open interest: 3783

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LONDON METAL EXCHANGE

(Official) (Volume prev day) — Rudolf Wolff

	Cash	3mth	Vol
Copper Gde A ($/tonne)	2044.0-2045.0	1943.0-1945.0	[illegible]
Lead ($/tonne)	811.00-812.00	816.00-816.50	146500
Zinc Spec Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1014.0-1015.0	1041.5-1042.0	[illegible]
Tin ($/tonne)	6100.0-6105.0	6180.0-6185.0	[illegible]
Aluminium Hi Gde ($/tonne)	1473.0-1473.5	1508.5-1509.0	[illegible]
Nickel ($/tonne)	6900.0-6905.0	7010.0-7015.0	[illegible]

LIFFE OPTIONS

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
Alld Dom	420	38	45	49	5	13	17
(*449½)	460	14	22	28	20	32	37
ASDA	110	8	11	13	2	5	6
(*116½)	120	3	6	8	7	10	11
Boots	600	30	40	52	10	19	24
(*614)	650	7	16	28	39	47	50
Br Airways	500	40	49	59	6	13	17
(*528½)	550	12	22	32	27	35	41
BP	600	22	33	41	15	25	31
(*607½)	650	5	13	21	49	55	60
Br Steel	180	9	14	18	5	9	11
(*184)	200	1	5	10	17	21	23
C & W	390	30	39	47	7	13	18
(*409)	430	13	23	31	19	27	32
CU	600	24	40	48	17	25	39
(*615½)	650	6	17	26	51	55	69
ICI	750	51	68	78	10	18	31
(*796½)	800	21	39	50	32	40	55
Land Sec	650	40	48	58	5	12	14
(*679½)	700	10	19	30	26	35	37
M & S	460	32	40	49	5	10	13
(*483½)	500	9	18	26	23	28	31
Nat West	650	33	52	61	14	24	39
(*660½)	700	11	29	37	43	51	66
Safeway plc	330	23	30	37	6	13	16
(*343½)	360	8	16	22	22	29	32
Sainsbury	390	19	27	36	7	14	16
(*399½)	420	5	14	21	23	30	32
Shell	900	46	57	70	11	18	29
(*934)	950	15	30	42	36	43	53
Smkl Bch	687	36	—	—	15	—	—
(*704½)	736	14	—	—	43	—	—
Storehse	280	23	—	—	3	—	—
(*297)	300	10	—	—	10	—	—
Trafalgar	50	1	—	—	0	—	—
(*50)	60	0	—	—	10	—	—
Zeneca	1400	68	101	119	41	60	78
(*1423½)	1450	43	75	92	68	85	103
	Series	Aug	Nov	Jan	Aug	Nov	Jan
BAT Ind	500	15	28	37	6	19	25
(*514½)	550	0	9	16	47	52	55
Vodafone	240	8	19	22	3	11	13
(*244½)	260	1	10	13	16	22	24
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
Grand Met	420	31	42	49	1	5	13
(*450)	460	4	18	26	15	23	32
Ladbroke	180	11	16	21	1	7	9
(*190)	200	1	7	11	11	17	20
Utd Bisc	200	14	20	24	0	5	8
(*213½)	220	1	9	14	7	15	18

August 7, 1996 Tot: 83025 Call: 36097 Put: 46928 FT-SE Call: 11195 Put: 9230
*Underlying security price.

	Series	Calls Oct	Calls Jan	Calls Apr	Puts Oct	Puts Jan	Puts Apr
BAA	460	29	35	44	2	14	17
(*478½)	500	9	16	24	27	34	37
Thames W.	550	24	34	44	12	25	30
(*555½)	600	7	14	23	49	57	60
	Series	Aug	Nov	Feb	Aug	Nov	Feb
BTR	240	10	16	20	1	8	10
(*249)	260	1	6	11	11	20	21
Br Aero	900	44	67	88	2	20	29
(*939½)	950	11	39	60	18	42	51
Br Telecm	360	18	26	34	1	8	14
(*376)	390	2	11	18	15	21	30
Cadbury	500	19	33	47	2	15	22
(*515½)	550	0	12	25	34	44	50
Guinness	460	18	28	39	1	11	16
(*475½)	500	1	9	20	24	19	30
GEC	360	19	30	35	1	6	11
(*378)	390	1	12	19	13	20	25
Hanson	140	19	19	21	0	2	5
(*158)	160	2	6	10	4	11	14
LASMO	180	7	13	18	1	5	7
(*185½)	200	0	4	8	14	16	18
Lucas	220	17	26	31	0	6	8
(*236)	240	3	14	19	7	15	17
Pilkingtn	191	5	—	—	2	—	—
(*193)	210	0	—	—	17	—	—
Prudential	420	15	24	36	3	13	19
(*431½)	460	1	8	18	29	37	42
Redland	420	9	23	31	6	19	24
(*422½)	460	0	8	15	37	46	49
R-Royce	220	6	14	20	3	10	13
(*223)	240	0	5	11	17	22	25
Tesco	280	17	23	31	1	6	10
(*296)	300	5	12	20	7	15	19
Williams	330	10	17	—	2	10	—
(*338½)	360	0	5	—	21	29	—

FT-SE INDEX (*3813)

	3700	3750	3800	3850	3900	3950
Calls						
Aug	114	69	31	9	2	1
Sep	143	105	74	48	28	15
Oct	163	128	97	71	49	33
Nov	180	147	115	89	65	48
Dec	204	—	142	—	91	—
Puts						
Aug	3	8	22	49	92	141
Sep	25	37	55	80	112	149
Oct	42	55	74	99	126	162
Nov	54	70	88	111	137	170
Dec	69	—	105	—	155	—

	Series	Calls Sep	Calls Dec	Calls Apr	Puts Sep	Puts Dec	Puts Apr
Abby Nat	550	39	51	62	6	14	24
(*586½)	600	9	24	36	50	55	57
Amstrad	130	12	19	—	3	9	—
(*139½)	140	7	14	—	8	14	—
Barclays	850	53	74	90	7	20	23
(*900)	900	20	44	60	27	39	46
Blue Circ	300	13	23	27	10	16	18
(*306)	330	2	10	14	31	35	36
Br Gas	190	19	22	25	2	4	7
(*197)	210	6	9	15	9	14	17
Dixons	500	21	37	47	10	19	25
(*508)	550	3	15	25	43	45	55
Forte	343	36	—	—	0	—	—
(*376)	373	7	—	—	4	—	—
Tarmac	100	4	8	10	4	8	9
(*101½)	110	1	4	6	10	14	15
Hillsdown	180	7	11	15	4	8	10
(*182½)	200	1	4	6	18	21	22
Lonrho	160	10	13	16	3	5	8
(*168½)	180	1	5	7	16	17	19
Sears	90	8	10	—	0	2	—
(*98)	100	3	5	—	5	7	—
Thorn	1200	80	122	—	19	39	—
(*1266½)	1300	29	66	—	67	89	—
Tomkins	260	9	16	20	7	11	14
(*265½)	280	1	8	12	21	23	26
Lloyds TSB	330	29	36	42	2	7	15
(*352)	360	7	18	25	14	20	29
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Glaxo W	650	52	75	91	16	29	43
(*696½)	700	25	48	65	39	51	66
HSBC	1150	43	72	87	30	57	79
(*1156½)	1200	23	50	66	71	86	109
Reuter	700	50	69	81	14	25	34
(*726½)	750	23	42	54	36	48	58
	Series	Oct	Jan	Apr	Oct	Jan	Apr
Royal & Sun	394	15	25	29	16	24	31
(*394½)	431	4	11	15	44	49	55
	Series	Oct	Feb	May	Oct	Feb	May
Kingfisher	600	46	66	73	7	19	27
(*636½)	650	17	37	46	29	41	50
	Series	Oct	Dec	Mar	Oct	Dec	Mar
Unilever	1250	41	54	75	16	29	35
(*1260)	1300	16	29	49	46	59	[illegible]
	Series	Sep	Dec	Apr	Sep	Dec	Apr
Natl Pwr	400	22	34	45	5	14	30
(*410)	450	3	11	22	34	43	47
Scot Pwr	294	27	30	33	1	0	13
(*321)	323	6	13	19	16	22	28

LONDON FINANCIAL FUTURES

	Period	Open	High	Low	Sett	Vol
FT-SE 100 Previous open interest: 62800	Sep 96	3804.0	3825.0	3803.0	3819.0	11844
	Dec 96	3835.0	3842.0	3831.0	3840.5	772
FT-SE 250 Previous open interest: 3491	Sep 96				4307.0	0
	Dec 96					0
Three Month Sterling Previous open interest: 413805	Sep 96	94.26	94.27	94.20	94.22	16068
	Dec 96	94.22	94.23	94.10	94.16	42206
	Mar 97	94.02	94.03	93.89	93.96	22934
Three Mth Euro Yen	Dec 96	99.02	99.04	99.02	99.03	534
	Mar 97	98.76	98.76	98.76	98.75	20
Three Mth Euro DM Previous open interest: 1043938	Sep 96	96.71	96.71	96.69	96.69	14961
	Dec 96	96.70	96.71	96.67	96.68	18748
Long Gilt Previous open interest: 150791	Sep 96	108-08	108-13	108-01	108-08	44923
	Dec 96	107-15	107-15	107-15	107-15	219
Japanese Govmt Bond	Sep 96	119.68	120.02	119.81	119.98	4795
	Dec 96	118.66	118.80	118.62	118.78	1327
German Gov Bd Bund Previous open interest: 253473	Sep 96	97.65	98.01	97.81	97.89	89576
	Dec 96	97.02	97.10	96.98	97.02	537
Three month ECU Previous open interest: 26124	Sep 96	95.54	95.58	95.52	95.53	1771
	Dec 96	95.56	95.60	95.54	95.55	1036
Euro Swiss Franc Previous open interest: 72444	Sep 96	97.55	97.64	97.56	97.63	6065
	Dec 96	97.50	97.58	97.46	97.55	[illegible]
Italian Govmt Bond Previous open interest: 67471	Sep 96	116.65	116.93	116.35	116.38	[illegible]
	Dec 96	116.21	116.20	115.90	115.69	92

MONEY RATES (%)

Base Rates: Clearing Banks 5¾ Finance Hse 6
Discount Market Loans: O/night high: 5¾ Low 5½ Week fixed: 5¾
Treasury Bills (Dis): Buy: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth [illegible]; Sell: 2 mth [illegible]; 3 mth: [illegible]

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Prime Bank Bills (Dis):	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	
Sterling Money Rates:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Interbank:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

Overnight: open [illegible], close [illegible].

	1 mth	2 mth	3 mth	6 mth	12 mth
Local Authority Deps:	[illegible]	n/a	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Sterling CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dollar CDs:	5.33	n/a	5.41	5.59	5.80
Building Society CDs:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]

EUROPEAN MONEY DEPOSITS (%)

Currency	7 day	1 mth	3 mth	6 mth	Call
Dollar:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	5-4
Deutschemark:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
French Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	4-3
Swiss Franc:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Yen:	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	n/a

GOLD/PRECIOUS METALS (Baird & Co)

Bullion: Open $388.00-388.30 Close: $387.90-388.40 High: $389.40-389.90
Low: $387.00-387.50 AM: $388.25 PM: $388.00

Krugerrand: $387.00-390.00 (£251.00-253.00)

Platinum: $401.25 (£260.30) Silver: $5.04 (£3.265) Palladium: $128.50 (£83.35)

STERLING SPOT AND FORWARD RATES

Mkt Rates for Aug 7	Range	Close	1 month	3 month
Amsterdam	2.5634-2.5694	2.5652-2.5681	[illegible]	[illegible]
Brussels	47.060-47.260	47.116-47.156	12-8pr	33-26pr
Copenhagen	8.8330-8.8600	8.8305-8.8487	[illegible]	[illegible]
Dublin	0.9577-0.9621	0.9599-0.9613	5 ds-par	0.33-0.26pr
Frankfurt	2.2842-2.2916	2.2856-2.2875	[illegible]	[illegible]
Lisbon	234.73-235.77	234.92-235.20	[illegible]	[illegible]
Madrid	193.95-194.78	194.29-194.47	24-34ds	77-94ds
Milan	2337.3-2346.5	2341.8-2344.4	5-7ds	17-19ds
Montreal	2.1120-2.1227	2.1146-2.1165	0.29-0.23pr	0.53-0.45pr
New York	1.5376-1.5444	1.5416-1.5424	0.065-0.045pr	0.105-0.075pr
Oslo	9.8713-9.9020	9.8713-9.8859	[illegible]	[illegible]
Paris	7.8020-7.8160	7.8037-7.8099	[illegible]	[illegible]
Stockholm	10.175-10.242	10.223-10.242	[illegible]	[illegible]
Tokyo	165.99-166.27	166.03-166.27	[illegible]	[illegible]
Vienna	16.072-16.131	16.082-16.097	[illegible]	[illegible]
Zurich	1.8598-1.8651	1.8607-1.8632	[illegible]	[illegible]

Source: Extel — *Premium = pr. Discount = ds.*

DOLLAR RATES

Australia	1.2870-1.2878
Austria	10.44-10.45
Belgium (Com)	30.60-30.61
Canada	1.3720-1.3725
Denmark	5.7415-5.7445
France	5.0670-5.0675
Germany	1.4848-1.4853
Hong Kong	7.7345-7.7355
Ireland	1.6030-1.6050
Italy	1520.60-1522.10
Japan	107.65-107.75
Malaysia	2.4891-2.4901
Netherlands	1.6664-1.6674
Norway	6.4113-6.4188
Portugal	152.63-152.73
Singapore	1.4161-1.4171
Spain	126.25-126.28
Sweden	6.6395-6.6495
Switzerland	1.2091-1.2096

OTHER STERLING

Argentina peso*	1.5405-1.5431
Australia dollar	1.9828-1.9853
Bahrain dinar	0.5740-0.5800
Brazil real*	1.5560-1.5602
China yuan	n/a
Cyprus pound	0.7035-0.7135
Finland markka	6.8500-6.9660
Greece drachma	362.00-369.00
Hong Kong dollar	11.9173-11.9266
India rupee	55.87-56.83
Indonesia rupiah	3566.00-3634.00
Kuwait dinar KD	0.4555-0.4655
Malaysia ringgit	3.8352-3.8397
New Zealand dollar	2.2424-2.2455
Pakistan rupee	54.41 Buy
Saudi Arabia riyal	5.5375-5.6000
Singapore dollar	2.1822-2.1852
S Africa rand (com)	6.8550-6.9570
U A E dirham	5.5875-5.7115

*Barclays Bank GTS * Lloyds Bank*

FT-SE VOLUMES

3i	130	Marks Spr	3,700
ASDA Gp	5,900	NatWst Bk	5,900
Abbey Ntl	11,600	Nat Grid	4,500
Allied Dom	1,400	Nat Power	6,100
Argos	1,300	Next	1,400
AB Foods	669	Orange	2,000
BAA	1,200	P & O	2,000
BAT Inds	4,000	Pearson	1,200
BOC	1,600	Pilkington	5,000
BP	8,000	PowerGen	2,300
BSkyB	927	Prudential	5,200
BTR	6,400	RMC	290
BT	11,000	RTZ	836
Bk of Scot	6,400	Railtrack	7,300
Barclays	10,000	Rank Org	3,600
Bass	1,200	Reckitt Col	2,100
Blue Circle	1,300	Redland	938
Boots	1,300	Reed Intl	2,800
BAe	1,400	Rentokil	7,600
BA	2,500	Reuters	10,600
Brit Gas	6,900	Rolls Royce	2,100
Brit Steel	3,600	Royal & Sun	2,000
Burmah Cstl	1,500	Royal Bk Sct	6,400
Burton	14,100	Safeway	1,400
Cable Wire	1,900	Sainsbury	5,100
Cadbury	2,500	Schroders	252
Carlton Cms	2,100	Scot & New	1,700
Cm Union	1,400	Scot Power	1,700
Cookson	1,300	Svrn Trent	1,700
Courtaulds	1,500	Shell Trans	5,400
Dixons	335	Siebe	1,800
Enterpr Oil	716	SmKl Bch	3,100
GKN	1,300	Smith Nph	4,500
GRE	1,200	Smiths Inds	3,200
GUS	2,700	Sthern Elec	2,000
Gen Acc	957	Std Chartd	7,800
Gen Elec	9,600	TI Gp	1,600
Glaxo Well	4,700	Tate & Lyle	1,900
Granada	1,300	Tesco	3,600
Grand Met	4,400	Thames W	536
Guinness	1,400	Thm EMI	578
HSBC	5,500	Tomkins	1,300
Hanson	16,000	Unilever	1,100
ICI	2,300	Utd Utilities	1,700
Kingfisher	1,400	Utd News	1,700
LASMO	5,300	Vodafone	2,800
Ladbroke	6,800	Whitbread	7,000
Land Secs	566	Wlms Hld	95
Legal & Gn	950	Wolseley	1,200
Lloyds TSB	10,800	Zeneca	893

WALL STREET

	Aug 7 midday	Aug 6 close
AMP Inc	40	40
AMR Corp	81	81
ASA	40	40
AT & T	54	54
Abbott Labs	45	45
Advanced Micro	13	13
Aetna Life	63	62
Ahmanson (HF)	25	26
Air Prod & Chem	54	54
AirTouch Comm	27	27
Alberto-Culver B	43	44
Albertson's	41	42
Alcan Alumnm	30	30
Alco Standard	47	46
Allied Signal	62	61
Alum Co of Am	58	60
Amax Gold Inc	6	6
Amerada Hess	49	50
Amer Brands	45	46
Amer El Power	41	42
Amer Express	45	45
Amer Genl Corp	35	35
Amer Home Pr	59	60
Amer Intl	98	98
Amer Stores	37	38
Amer Standard	32	32
Ameritech	57	58
Amoco	68	69
Anheuser-Busch	73	73
Apple Computer	22	21
Archer Daniels	18	18
Armco	4	4
Armstrng Wrld	58	58
Asarco	24	24
Atl Richfield	116	117
Auto Data Pro	41	41
Avery Dennison	53	53
Avon Products	45	45
Baker Hughes	30	30
Baltim Gas & El	25	26
Banc One	36	36
BankAmerica	81	82
Bank of NY	54	54
Bankers Tr NY	75	75
Barnett Banks	65	65
Bausch & Lomb	36	36
Baxter Intl	41	41
Bectn Dickinsn	83	82
Bell Atlantic	61	61
Bell Industries	16	16
BellSouth	40	41
Black & Decker	38	38
Block (H&R)	27	27
Boeing	91	90
Boise Cascade	33	33
Bristol Myrs Sq	87	88
Browning Ferris	24	24
Brunswick	19	19
Burlington Nthn	80	80
CMS Energy Corp	30	30
CNA Financial	103	102
CPC Intl	68	67
CSX	46	46
Campbell Soup	69	69
Can Pacific	21	22
Carolina Pwr	37	37
Caterpillar	68	68
Central & SW	26	26
Champion Intl	41	41
Chase Manhat	73	72
Chevron Corp	58	59
Chrysler	27	28
Chubb Corp	44	44
Cigna Corp	113	110
Citicorp	85	85
Clorox	99	99
Coastal Corp	39	39
Coca Cola	49	49
Colgate-Palmolive	81	81
Columbia Gas	55	55
Columbia/HCA	55	54
Compaq Comp	55	55
Comp Ass Intl	55	55
ConAgra	43	43
Conrail	68	68
Cons Edison	27	27
Cons Nat Gas	51	52
Cooper Inds	39	39
CoreStates	40	40
Corning Inc	38	38
Crown Cork	46	47
Dana Corp	29	29
Dayton Hudson	32	32
Deere	39	39
Delta Air Lines	71	71
Deluxe Corp	37	37
Digital Equip	37	37
Dillard Dept St	33	33
Disney (Walt)	58	58
Dominion Res	38	38
Donnelley (RR)	33	33
Dover Corp	45	45
Dow Chemical	77	77
Dow Jones	39	40
Dresser	28	28
Duke Power	49	49
Dun & Bradstreet	57	57
Du Pont	82	82
Eastman Chem	53	53
Eastman Kodak	77	76

	Aug 7 midday	Aug 6 close
Eaton Corp	56	56
Edison Intl	15	15
Emerson Elec	88	89
Engelhard Corp	20	21
Enron Corp	40	39
Entergy	25	25
Ethyl Corp	9	9
Exxon	82	84
FMC Corp	66	67
FPL Group	46	45
Federal Express	76	77
Fed Nat Mtge	33	33
First Bk Sys	62	62
First Union Rlty	6	6
Fleet Finl Grp	42	42
Fluor Corp	64	64
Ford Motor	33	33
GTE Corp	42	42
Gannett	67	67
Gap Inc Del	32	32
Gen Dynamics	64	64
Gen Electric	[illegible]	[illegible]
Gen Mills	54	54
Gen Motors	51	51
Gen Reinsurance	151	152
Gen Signal	[illegible]	[illegible]
Genuine Parts	43	43
Georgia Pac	74	77
Gillette	62	62
Glaxo Wells ADR	27	27
Goodrich (BF)	37	36
Goodyear Tire	43	45
Grace (WR)	64	64
Gt Atl Pac Tea	24	24
Great Wstn Fin	24	24
Halliburton	55	55
Harcourt General	49	48
Heinz (HJ)	33	33
Hercules	51	51
Hershey Foods	82	84
Hewlett Packard	44	44
Hilton Hotels	106	106
Home Depot	53	52
Homestake Mng	16	16
Honeywell	55	55
Household Intl	78	77
Houston Inds	21	21
Humana	18	19
ITT Corp	56	56
Illinois Tool	67	68
Illinova	26	26
INCO	31	31
Ingersoll Rand	44	44
Inland Steel	18	18
Intel Corp	80	79
IBM	110	109
Intl Flav & Fr	44	44
Intl Paper	36	36
James River Va	25	25
Jhnsn & Jhnsn	50	50
Kellogg	70	70
Kerr-McGee	59	58
Kimberly-Clark	77	77
Kmart	10	10
Knight-Ridder	33	33
Lilly (Eli)	60	58
Limited Inc	20	19
Lincoln Nat	44	44
Litton	44	43
Liz Claiborne	33	33
Lockheed Martin	85	85
Louisiana Pac	21	20
MCI Comm	25	25
Marriott Intl	54	53
Marsh & McLnn	92	92
Masco Corp	29	28
May Dept St	46	46
Maytag Corp	20	20
McDonalds	47	47
McDonnell D	48	48
McGraw Hill	40	40
Mead Corp	55	55
Medtronic	52	50
Mellon Bk	54	55
Melville Corp	40	40
Merck Inc	66	67
Merrill Lynch	63	63
Microsoft	124	124
Minnesota Mine	66	67
Mobil Corp	111	112
Monsanto	31	31
Morgan (JP)	88	89
Motorola Inc	56	55
Natl Semi	15	15
Natl Service Ind	35	35
Navistar Int	9	9
NY Times A	31	30
Newmont Mng	52	53
Niag Mohawk	8	7
Nike B	109	108
NL Industries	10	10
Noram Energy	11	11
Nordstrom	40	41
Norfolk Sthn	81	81
Nthn State Pwr	45	45
Norwest Corp	36	36
Nynex Corp	40	40
Occidental Pet	23	23
Ohio Edison	21	21
Oracle	38	37

	Aug 7 midday	Aug 6 close
Oryx Energy Co	16	16
Overseas Ship	18	18
Owens Corning	38	39
PHH Corp	26	27
PPG Industries	51	51
PNC Bank	30	30
PP&L Res	22	23
Paccar Inc	46	46
Pacificorp	21	21
Pac Enterprises	29	30
Pac Gas & Elec	20	20
Pac Telesis	34	34
Pall Corp	24	24
Parker Hannifin	36	36
Penn Energy	24	24
Penney (JC)	51	51
Pennzoil	51	51
PepsiCo	32	32
Pfizer	73	73
Pharm & Upjhn	43	43
Phelps Dodge	63	62
Philip Morris	105	105
Phillips Pet	38	39
Pitney Bowes	45	44
Polaroid	41	41
PriceCostco	21	21
Procter & Gmbl	90	91
Providian	49	49
Pub Serv E & G	27	27
Quaker Oats	32	32
Ralston Purina	65	64
Raychem Corp	69	67
Raytheon	52	51
Reebok Intl	35	35
Reynolds Metals	51	52
Rockwell Intl	55	54
Rohm & Haas	61	61
Royal Dutch	150	151
Rubbermaid	28	28
SBC Comms	50	50
Safeco Corp	33	32
St Paul's Cos	51	51
Salomon Inc	44	44
Sara Lee Corp	32	31
Schering Plough	56	57
Schlumberger	85	84
Seagram	34	33
Sears Roebuck	43	42
Shell Trans	86	86
Sherwin Wlms	46	46
Skyline Corp	25	25
Snap-On-Tool	45	45
Southern Co	22	22
Sprint Corp	38	37
Stanley Works	29	29
Sun Company	25	25
Sun Microsys	53	53
Suntrust	38	38
Supervalu	27	27
Sysco Corp	30	30
TRW Inc	93	93
TCC Inds	2	2
Tandem Comp	11	11
Tandy Corp	45	44
Teledyne	38	38
Temple Inland	44	46
Tenneco	50	50
Texaco	86	86
Texas Inst	47	45
Texas Utilities	42	42
Textron	82	81
Time Warner	36	36
Times-Mirror A	43	43
Timken	37	37
Torchmark	43	43
Toys R Us	[illegible]	[illegible]
Transamerica	71	71
Travelers	45	44
Tribune	70	70
Tyco Intl	41	42
UST Inc	34	33
UAL	51	51
US Inds	24	23
US West Comm	31	31
USX Marathon	20	20
Unicom	24	24
Unilever NV	142	143
Union Camp	48	48
Union Carbide	42	41
Union Pacific	70	70
Unisys Corp	6	6
USAIR Group	18	19
USF&G Corp	16	16
US Life	30	30
United Tech	115	114
Unocal Corp	33	33
VF Corp	58	57
WMX Tech	31	31
Wal-Mart Stores	24	24
Warner-Lambert	55	55
Wells Fargo	242	243
Westinghouse El	16	16
Weyerhaeuser	43	43
Whirlpool	48	50
Whitman	22	22
Winn Dixie	35	35
Woolworth	19	19
Wrigley (Wm) Jr	55	55
Xerox	52	53
Yellow Corp	13	13

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THE TIMES CITY DIARY

Power play at the Games

NATIONAL POWER chiefs were rather taken aback by a spot of corporate hospitality that recently came their way. John Baker, chairman, and Keith Henry, chief executive, were both invited to cheer on the British team at the Olympic Games in Atlanta.

Their hosts? Southern Company — the US utility which only a few months ago made undesired overtures to bid for the English generator. The invitations were, of course, politely declined.

Going global

AFTER only a month at NatWest Markets, Dame Pauline Neville-Jones has been promoted to Head of Global Business Strategy. The former Foreign Office political director says she is looking forward to continuing her role in developing the firm's international governmental strategy, while working on more long term issues from September. But this leaves the effervescent dame with even less time to indulge her favourite passions for cooking and gardening. "I was apprehensive to begin with, and it has been a very steep learning curve," she says. "But there's one thing I'm absolutely certain about — I'm not bored."

Cake escape

CHIEF executives and chairmen, hailed as "party poopers", are forsaking the UK to celebrate their birthdays abroad. Sir Richard Sykes, deputy chairman and chief executive of Glaxo Wellcome, turned 54 yesterday, while on a three-week holiday in Sardinia with his daughter. John Young, chairman of Young and Company's Brewery, was with his step-daughter and four grandsons on the East Coast of the US when he hit 75 yesterday. But John Jackson, company secretary at British Gas, took refuge at home with his two children in Sussex, to mark his 48th birthday yesterday.

"Try to cut down on the Carlton Food Channel."

Drawing power

AS PART of a study into changes within the public sector, Bristol Business School invited local government and National Health Service managers to express their feelings towards change through drawings. One manager drew football players lying dead on the pitch, while another sketched a sinister figure decapitating a maiden. A chief executive, who found it difficult to produce a drawing at all, wrote "challenge, excitement, fun, humour, communication, and enthusiasm" in great big letters. As an after thought, he added, in tiny letters, "anxiety and doubt".

Tell-tale

PRIZE for the most blatant disregard of client confidentiality goes to surveyors DTZ Debenham Thorpe announcing the purchase of the Royal Bank of Canada Centre by their client, DIFA: "The actual price has not been released, but is believed to be over £88 million." What else are they not telling us?

MORAG PRESTON

ECONOMIC VIEW

ANATOLE KALETSKY

Bank has been crying wolf but is still worth heeding

Serious questions are raised by its argument that the British economy needs higher interest rates

Public disagreements between informed and well-intentioned people are one of the essential features of a civilised society. There is nothing alarming or even disconcerting about the criticisms of Kenneth Clarke's monetary policy disclosed yesterday by the Bank of England. In fact, the Bank's decision to air its disagreements with the Chancellor as forcefully as it did in its quarterly *Inflation Report* should be seen as a sign of the unaccustomed confidence and maturity that Britain's policymakers have started to show in the management of our economic affairs.

Where once decisions on interest rates were made by an arbitrary dictat from the Chancellor or the Prime Minister, there now seems to be a genuine dialogue between a highly political Chancellor and a very professional Bank of England. This continuous debate between politics and economics has, not surprisingly, delivered better results than Britain's old system of leaving everything to the whim of the Chancellor. To judge by the relative performance of the British and German economies, our approach to monetary policy also seems preferable to the German (and European) system of giving dictatorial powers to supposedly infallible bureaucrats.

Against that background, there are three serious questions raised by the Bank's argument that the British economy needs higher interest rates.

First, is this the considered view of a majority of senior Bank officials, or simply the personal opinion of one man who always seems to favour higher interest rates, Eddie George, the Bank Governor? Secondly, are the risks of weakening the economy now greater or less than the dangers of provoking higher inflation? Thirdly, can the Bank even consider the risks of an economic slowdown, given that its mandate from the Government is to report on inflation and nothing else?

While the second question is obviously the most important, the others deserve a few comments. Yesterday's call for higher interest rates was based on the Bank's view that the economy is now growing "above trend" (or soon will be). Yet the *Inflation Report* contained no discussion of what this trend growth rate might be, or of whether the economy is at or below this trend. The Bank's reticence contrasted embarrassingly with *How Fast Can the Economy Grow?* the excellent report on this crucial point produced for the Chancellor by his panel of independent economic advisers.

Five of the six "Wise People" judged that the economy could grow by about 3 per cent a year for three to five years without generating additional inflationary pressures. By contrast, the Bank's analysis seemed to assume that any growth rate much higher than 2 per cent would automatically produce inflation. The Bank's failure to engage in this all important economic argument rather suggested that the analysis of the *Inflation Report* was derived from Mr George's demand for a rate rise, rather than the other way round.

The credibility of Britain's monetary framework would be greatly enhanced if such suspicions were allayed once and for all. The way to do that would be for Britain to borrow two institutional ideas from the world's only successful central bank — the US Federal Reserve Board. The Bank's view on monetary policy should be formed not by an individual, but by a group consisting of senior officials — with their votes recorded and their individual views made public. Even more importantly, the Bank's mandate should also be extended. The objective of monetary policy is not just to control inflation but to do so in conditions of the fullest possible employment and the strongest possible economic growth.

The Bank's advice must explicitly recognise the short-term trade-offs between inflation and unemployment. And interest rates have to be kept in balance with policy on taxes and public spending. (This is the strongest economic argument against splitting responsibilty for macroeconomic policy between the Government and an independent central bank). The litmus test of monetary policy is how it affects the real economy of employment and production. This is why Alan Greenspan and his colleagues at the Fed base most of their judgments not on monetary aggregates and bond-market expectations but on such down-to-earth indicators of economic activity as freight-car loadings, vendor delivery times and payroll employment. It is also why the Bank devotes the great bulk of each quarter's *Inflation Report* to a detailed analysis of industrial and labour market trends. But as long as the conclusions are expressed solely in terms of achieving inflation targets, the Bank will never overcome the perception that it is biased in favour of deflation and against growth.

That brings us to the key question about the Bank's call for higher interest rates. Has Britain now reached the point in the economic cycle when accelerating inflation becomes a greater danger to long-term prosperity than unemployment and declining growth?

Until recently that question was hardly worth asking. Ever since 1990, the economy has clearly been floundering, unemployment has been unacceptably high and unused capacity has been standing idle for all to see, whether in the form of empty factories or boarded-up shops in the high streets. The Bank has persistently underestimated the downward pressure that this excess capacity and this reserve army of idle workers would exert on prices, especially after the deregulation and union reforms of the 1980s. The Bank has twice cried wolf about interest rates in the past two years and has lost much of its credibility as a result. But in Aesop's fable the wolf did eventually come. So is inflation about to slink out of the woods now that the Bank is crying wolf for the third time? My personal view is that the British economy is now in the early phases of a strong upswing, that growth will average well above 3 per cent in the next two years and that inflation will probably accelerate slightly. Of course, there is nothing magical about 3 per cent. The six Wise People notwithstanding, it may well be that Britain today — in many ways a totally different economy from the one that existed in the 1970s and early 1980s — is capable of non-inflationary growth well above 3 per cent.

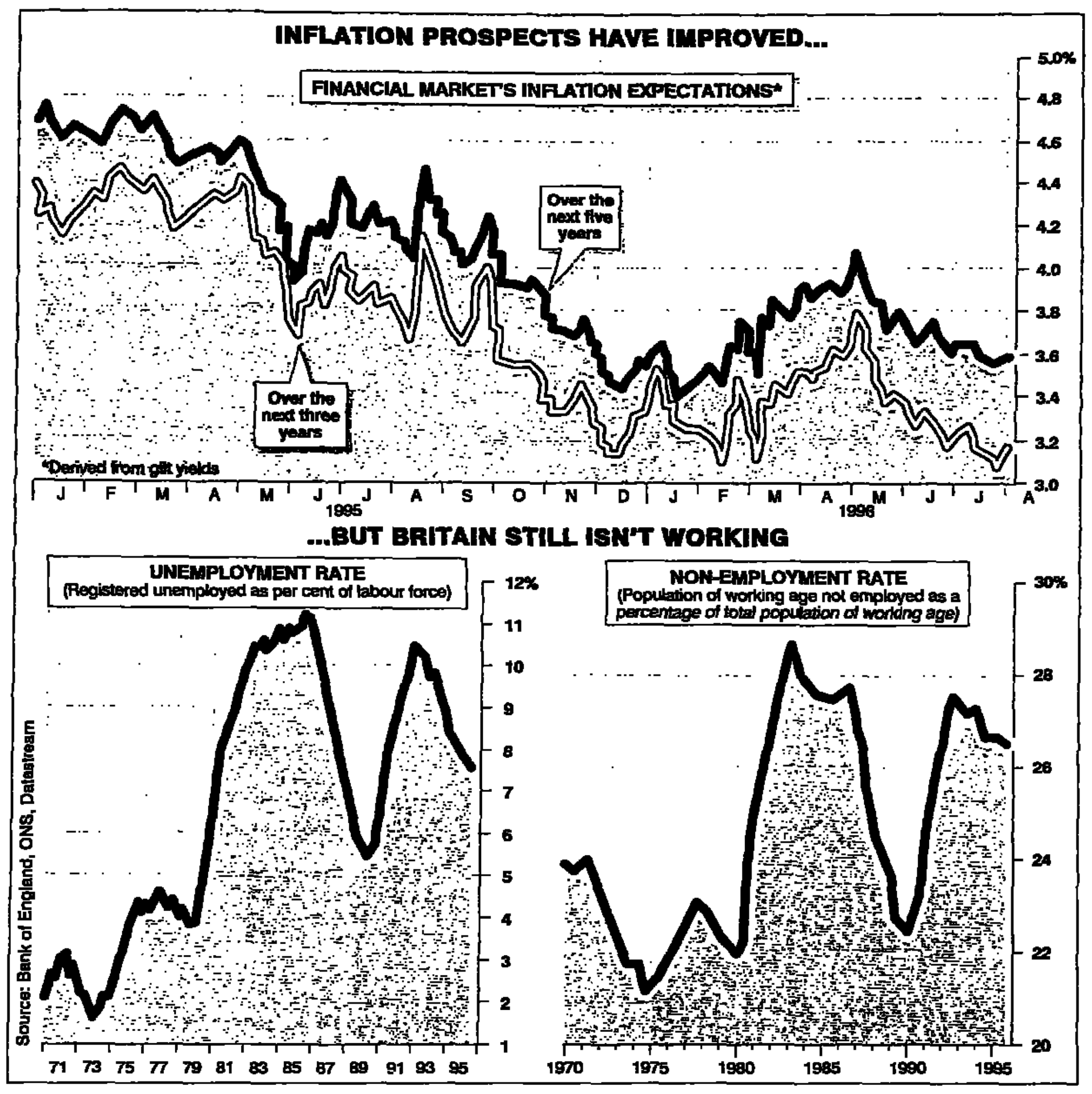
> There now seems to be a genuine dialogue between a highly political Chancellor and a professional Bank

This certainly seems to be what financial markets now believe. The Bank's own analysis of expectations in the financial markets shows that investors are increasingly convinced inflation will remain low for years ahead (see top chart). Probably the main reason for this confidence is also cited by the Bank: the reserve army of unused labour is far larger than the unemployment figures suggest. In spite of the sharp fall in official unemployment, the number of people of working age who are not in jobs has hardly diminished since the end of the recession (see lower charts). If labour demand picked up sufficiently, there is every reason to suppose that millions of workers who have taken early retirement, been classified as disabled, or sunk into the black economy, would come back into the market — maintaining the downward pressure on wages.

How far unemployment can fall and how fast the economy can grow without triggering too much inflation is something that can be discovered only from experience and economic policy should not restrict growth to some arbitrary "speed limit" plucked off a computer printout by the Bank, the Chancellor, or anybody else.

However, to discover the economy's true capacity for long-term growth it is equally important to avoid any sudden inflationary eruption. Any further reduction in interest rates, therefore, seems unnecessary and risky, especially in the context of a government deficit that is still far too large.

This does not mean, however, that an *increase* in interest rates would be justified now or any time in the near future. When the time comes to restrain demand the way to do it will be through tougher policies on taxes or public spending, not through a return to high interest rates. Low interest rates should be the lasting reward for low inflation and responsible fiscal policy: that is the real message the Bank should be trying to get across.



Young guns to lead corporate Britain into 21st century

Des Dearlove on the emergence of a new generation of chief executives

Dedicated followers of corporate fashion may have noticed that chief executives seem to be getting younger. A report published this week makes it official. It confirms the emergence of a new generation at the helm of Britain's top companies.

Today's more youthful chief executive is aged between 39 and 55, and is likely to have reached his first chief executive role earlier in his career than his predecessor. There are signs, too, that the youth culture is accelerating, with the rise of a new breed of "super CEOs" — chief executive officers — younger still, better educated, with more international experience and a track record that reads like a *Who's Who* of the corporate world.

The study, carried out by Dr Elisabeth Marx, head of the psychological assessment practice at NB Selection, the recruitment company, looked at 92 chief executives from FT-SE 100 companies — all of them men. The average CEO is 55 years old, with a background in accountancy or finance. He joined his first plc at the age of 30 and became a managing director when 41. In the course of his career, he will have worked for three or four blue chip companies, and will have held a total of eight other positions before being appointed to his current post at the age of 49.

Behind the averages, however, are revealing age differences. Britain's captains of industry fall into two distinct groups: the old school, aged 55 to 65 (40 per cent); and a younger generation, aged between 39 to 55 (60 per cent).

Examples from the old school include Sir Brian Moffat at British Steel, aged 57, and Sir David Lees of GKN, who makes way for a new chief executive this year at the age of 60. Those in the second group are significantly younger. But many, according to Dr Marx, already have as much experience as the older CEOs.

Despite an average age difference of ten years, the younger CEOs have worked for the same number of companies and held as many positions as their older counterparts, she says. "They spent an average of just nine years with each company, where their predecessors might have spent ten or more. They are also more likely to have a degree."

Individuals from this group are also more likely to have international experience, which many commentators believe is vital for the leadership task of the 1990s. Dr Marx believes the trend towards the new-style CEO is particularly pronounced in a smaller but significant group.

The youngest group comprises CEOs aged between 39 and 45. In spite of their youth, they have worked for more companies than their older counterparts, staying an average of less than five years, have more international experience and, on the whole, are better educated.

Archie Norman, at Asda, and Martin Taylor, at Barclays Bank, she says are classic examples of the "super CEO". Their arrival at the head of UK companies, she believes, bodes well for the country's competitive position. This collection of "super CEOs", Dr Marx says, make up "a highly impressive group, who strive for breadth of experience and are better equipped to deal with the globalisation of business in the 21st century".

Dr Marx adds: "They are adept at creating their own opportunities, rather than simply moving up the career ladder in the old way. They are intellectually curious and enjoy the risk involved with running a company. These people are real movers and shakers."

"Super CEOs" are also more likely to have an Oxford or Cambridge degree. Overall, however, the study found that the time it takes to reach the top is not influenced by having a university degree, regardless of its origin. Of the 92 chief executives profiled in the study, only 17 were Oxford or Cambridge graduates, with a further 44 having graduated from other universities, and the remaining 31 — more than a third of those sampled — having no university education at all.

On the whole, CEOs educated at Oxford or Cambridge seem to fare better when it comes to additional roles, such as non-executive directorships, suggesting the "old boy network" is still thriving.

Marx: identified trend towards 'super CEOs'

BUSINESS LETTERS

Plea to restore link between pension and average earnings is put to the politicians

From Ms Maureen Colquhoun

Sir, Pensioners have taken a back seat on party political agendas for long enough and it is overwhelmingly important that the next Government re-establishes the link between pensions and average earnings.

We have written to all 651 members of the current House of Commons and it is clear that the Government and the Opposition have no intention of doing so, although a handful of Conservative MPs and 138 Labour MPs have indicated that they would if they could.

So what is the problem? Social Security Secretary Peter Lilley tells Conservative MPs that £10 billion would be needed to implement a liveable pension. Labour's Shadow Social Security Minister said recently: "Decisions on the exact role of the state pension, like other spending decisions, can only be taken in light of what the country can afford." This means they are not going to do it, which is a disgraceful U-turn after all Labour has said in opposition about restoring the link.

Yes, full restoration of the lost pension income immediately would be expensive; but not as high as the £10 billion alleged by Mr Lilley as this assumes a higher pension for married couples than would have resulted from not abolishing the earnings link. His argument is a political red herring because it suggests that all past losses must be made good immediately, and clearly this is not affordable in one go. The vital first step is to restore the earnings link for future upratings at a cost in the first year of under half a billion pounds per annum.

It is time for the Government to provide a state pension that gives pensioners dignity and choice with freedom from means testing. We are now taking this message to party conferences and prospective parliamentary candidates because it is vital that the next House of Commons corrects the injustice that pensioners have suffered silently for so long.

Yours faithfully,
MAUREEN COLQUHOUN,
Pensions Lobbying 1996,
South Knoll,
Rydal Road,
Ambleside, Cumbria.

Bank regulation

From Mr Colin A. Perry.

Sir, Andrew Longhurst, chief executive of Cheltenham & Gloucester plc and a director of Lloyds Bank Plc, writes pejoratively of the Ombudsman system (Executive Voice July 13). But the Banking Ombudsman does not have a general supervisory or regulatory function with regard to the member banks: it is a scheme designed as an alternative to the civil courts, and the Ombudsman's only power is to award monetary compensation to make good actual loss, damage or notable inconvenience caused by a breach of duty on the member bank's part: it is a voluntary code.

On becoming an institution authorised to carry on a deposit-taking business on its acquisition by Lloyds as a subsidiary of a wholly-owned subsidiary on August 1 1995, C&G is bound under the Banking Act not to disclose any information relating to the business or other affairs of any person, without the consent of that person. Anyone who discloses information in contravention of Restriction on Disclosure of Information shall be guilty of an offence and liable to criminal penalties. It is the Banking Act which it is the duty of the Bank of England to supervise. The Banking Ombudsman's Scheme is voluntary.

The voluntary code says banks and societies will observe a strict duty of cutomer confidentiality and not disclose details "of customers' accounts to any third party, including other companies in the same group." Upon confidentiality rests the integrity of the whole banking system. Earlier this year I wanted assurance from C&G that, as a depositor, the member bank is bound by secton 82 of the Banking Act concerning restriction on disclosure of information: I have the letter of confirmation. Lloyds Bank, however, two weeks' later wrote to me that "the directors of Cheltenham & Gloucester plc are unlikely to receive information for the purposes of the Banking Act and section 82 is therefore unlikely to be applicable to them." The paradox is apparent: the reality is Lloyds Bank "is not prepared to provide a confidential memorandum prepared by the bank for a third party" to me, the owner of the assets involved; and Andrew Longhurst told me on June 27 1996 that C&G has not acted in contravention of its undertaking as to confidentiality and section 82 of the Banking Act has no application.

There is, circulating between third parties according to Lloyds Bank, Bank of England and subsidiaries of Lloyds Bank a confidential memorandum about me which no person will show me: and the document concerns my own English property settled in my possession and testified by The Royal Bank of Scotland, NatWest and Hoare's Bank since October 1986. I expect to publish documentation in due course because it has a bearing on the Transfer Document and Decision by the Building Societies Commission on the transfer of C&G to a Lloyds Bank subsidiary and to show why former C&G members who received cash payment from Lloyds ought not to be exposed to possible gains tax.

Yours faithfully,
COLIN A. PERRY,
6a Moorend Road,
Yardley Gobion,
Towcester, Northants.

Standard Life and demutualisation

From Mr J. Stretton

Sir, Pennington severely misrepresents Standard Life's position on mutuality ("Standard democracy", July 30). In wishing to remain mutual we are emphatically not trying to be "shielded from the rigours of the stock market". We observe the same rules on disclosure as would apply were we a proprietary company and we submit ourselves to the same firm line on other corporate governance issues that we encourage in companies in which we invest.

Our view is that a well run mutual life insurance company will do better for its policyholders than a well run proprietary company. There is overwhelming historic evidence to support our view and anyone arguing for demutualisation needs to give reasons to believe the contrary. Pennington provides none.

Finally, to produce through faulty reasoning the lure of very large potential windfalls to policyholders is irresponsible. Normally and for good reasons policyholders receive no cash payments when a life company demutualises, but instead are compensated by the addition of bonuses to their policies. Over the term to each policy's termination, policyholders would give up to shareholders more than they gained through demutualisation.

Yours faithfully,
J. STRETTON
Chief Executive,
UK Operations,
Standard Life,
3 George Street,
Edinburgh.

ACCOUNTANCY

Keeping it simple can pay

David Allvey finds that only a few companies are putting their shareholders' information needs first

ADRIAN BROOKS

David Allvey says companies have saved 20 to 33 per cent

In the need to comply with the growing volume of new accounting requirements, companies have been neglecting the simpler information needs of private, or non-specialist, shareholders.

There is so much new technical information in company accounts today that shareholders find difficult to interpret. That is because recent developments in financial reporting have paid close attention to accounting theory. The standard setters have tried to redress the abuses that were evident in the large corporate collapses of the late Eighties through more rigorous standards and an increase in disclosure. Post-Cadbury, the corporate world has leant strongly towards a more-is-better approach, further bloating the annual package of information received by shareholders.

A side-effect of this approach has been a huge increase in the detailed technical information companies are now expected to supply in their full report and accounts. Only a few have attempted to put their shareholders' information needs first to redress the imbalance between adequate financial disclosure and accessibility. Since 1990, companies have been able to issue summary financial statements (SFS), containing summaries of the directors' report, profit and loss account and balance sheet, in the place of, or as well as, the full report and accounts. Yet, as shown in the English ICA's report *Summary Financial Statements: The Way Forward*, only about 30 major companies have decided to offer this simplified report to shareholders.

The experience of companies that have adopted the SFS is largely positive. In almost every case, 90 per cent or more of shareholders opted for the summary when it was offered. They found that shareholders had little interest in the technical content of the full report and preferred to concentrate on key items such as profits, dividends and general descriptions of performance. Our research suggests that the "results at a glance", the chairman's statement and the chief executive's review are the most widely read, with the financial statements among the least read.

Companies adopting the SFS have been able to cut costs significantly. Even though companies have to find out from their shareholders whether they can supply them with a summary, simplifications made to that process by the Department of Trade and Industry in September 1995 have paved the way for a cheaper, more effective system. The DTI has scrapped the need for companies to provide shareholders with both the SFS and the full report in the first year.

At BAT Industries, we found in 1991 that, even under the old consultation requirements, significant savings were made from year one. There were increased design and internal management costs associated with the production of the summary but, with 90 per cent of shareholders opting to receive it without the supporting full report, BAT saved £200,000 on postage, printing and paper costs alone. Similarly, Pilkington, the international glass company, estimated that it made an annual £43,000 saving on printing and postage. On average, companies have saved 20 to 33 per cent in costs.

Most shareholders were happy too. Of those who received the summary, three out of four thought it kept them abreast of what was going on, with one in four claiming to use it for share-trading decisions.

It is ironic, however, that the principal drawback to wider adoption of the summary is that it is becoming too lengthy. Most companies produce an integrated summary and an additional document that makes up a full report and accounts. While the original intention was to create brief, easy to use information, many summaries now run to 40 pages.

So it is time for all companies to take stock again. But with most private shareholders being interested only in key information, companies should remember that the summary provides a cheap and effective vehicle to keep it in touch with its shareholders.

The author is finance director at BAT and was chairman of the English ICA working party that produced the summary financial statements report

Too many regulators confuse the meaning

ONE OF the problems of European policy-making is understanding precisely what anyone means. After the words have been fed through numerous approving committees and translated this way and that, it is often difficult to discern meaning in the final pronouncements.

Within any single language and culture you can pick up nuance and understand no such chance. And so, sadly, it is with the latest Green Paper on the role, position and liability of the statutory auditor in the European Union, issued by the European Commission. It covers everything from corporate governance, the independence of the auditor, through to fraud and liability. But at the end, you cannot be sure what anyone really thinks on any of these issues.

Take corporate governance as an example. There is some good debate. Much of it is taken rather further than the more timid souls in the UK would like. Earlier in the report, at paragraph 3.29, it rattles through the position on fraud.

"The public expects the opportunities for fraud to be minimised," it states. And then says that directors must be responsible for setting up internal controls to minimise such opportunities, and that auditors should confirm that the directors have done a decent job in doing so. All good decisive stuff.

ROBERT BRUCE

But then in the corporate governance section of the report you can feel the hands being spread wide and the shoulders being shrugged as paragraph 4.28 starts: "It is difficult to deal at EU level with matters of corporate governance." If you can't deal with corporate governance at a European level you wonder why this Green Paper has been issued at all. Presumably it is just as difficult to deal with the wider audit issues.

This is another aspect to such reports. Having been through so many different hands in their preparation there is always a feeling that in the end it was scissors and paste that triumphed. One bit of the report talks of encouraging advances while another says nothing can be done.

The report also produces evidence to support another theory. Brussels came late to the whole issue of audit. Accountancy as a profession is tiny and peripheral in most European countries. It is only dominant and prominent in the UK, this awkward offshore island, in the old Commonwealth countries and, of course, in the US and hence anywhere that multinationals flourish.

So European law has had to take opposing attitudes. There is no point in having a Commission perspective if it is seen to rubber-stamp American-dominated processes. So it has to oppose them, ignore what has been built up over a long period of sophisticated adult practice and regulation and put forward another solution.

The problem is that there are only so many solutions and most have been tried and discarded long before Brussels started worrying about them. Take, for example, the saga of rotation of auditors. This, as anyone in what is known as the Anglo-Saxon auditing world knows, does not work as a method of strengthening audit independence. Studies show that, if anything, the process of changing a company's auditors every few years actually increases the likelihood of fraud, as a regular cycle of new auditors struggle to get a good grip in the first years of the assignment.

But this did not stop Brussels recommending it as the panacea some years ago. Now they have come to the same conclusion as the rest of us. Paragraph 4.15 has to admit that "the arguments in favour of such a system are not conclusive". Instead the report suggests that "a solution which could enhance the perception of the auditor's objectivity, without causing the efficiency and quality drawbacks of firm rotation, could consist in setting up a rotation of audit partners within the same firm". Or to put it another way: do what the UK does.

The position on liability is the same. The analysis is clear: "It would seem reasonable that the liability of the auditor should be limited to amounts which reflect his degree of negligence." But again, "action at EU level in this field is likely to be difficult". If it wasn't difficult it wouldn't be a problem.

It greatly pains me in these fevered times to appear to be taking an anti-European stance. But the root of the problem is regulators. The job of regulators is to protect the public. Too many regulators see their job as having to come up with more regulations.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The true test of independence

GRANT THORNTON is rightly proud of becoming the first auditor appointed to audit an auditor. It will start crawling over the figures of KPMG Audit soon. For Grant Thornton, it vindicates its insistence that its niche market is owner-managed businesses. Colin Sharman, KPMG's senior partner, is not keen on emphasising that his fellow 565 partners own the place and have a voice in its running, but if an accounting partnership is not an archetypal owner-managed business it would be hard to say what was. The Grant Thornton partner who takes on the job is David Spence, who is not only on the ladder for the Scots ICA presidency, but chairs the UK profession's ethics watchdog. Sharman said the firm was impressed by Grant Thornton's "robust independence". The first audit report goes public next year.

Watch this space

REBEL members of the English ICA noticed that while the chief executive of the certified accountants revealed her pay in their annual report this did not happen at the English ICA. But yesterday's institute council meeting was told that "a Cadbury-style statement on governance" should be included with next year's report and accounts. There is not a word on whether the salary of Andrew Colquhoun, chief executive, will be revealed. As it is the formidable reforming Dame Sheila Masters, of KPMG, who is driving this one we expect every used pound will be accounted for.

On the line

COOPERS & Lybrand continues to take its exalted headquarters position atop Charing Cross station seriously. Last week, the music to be heard when on hold in its telephone response system was Rachmaninov's second piano concerto — the theme from *Brief Encounter*, probably the most famous railway film of all. Next week: the theme from *Thomas the Tank Engine*.

ROBERT BRUCE

House of Lords — Law Report August 8 1996 — House of Lords

Council responsibility for payment

Chief Adjudication Officer and Another v Quinn
Same v Gibbon

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hope of Craighead

[Speeches July 24]

Where a local authority made arrangements with a voluntary organisation for the provision of residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention, which was not otherwise available to them, under such arrangements the local authority had to make payments to the organisation in respect of that residential accommodation, as provided by section 26(2) of the National Assistance Act 1948.

Where such provisions were not made, a resident of that residential accommodation was not regarded to be living in accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 and the higher rate of income support was payable to him.

The House of Lords so held dismissing appeals by the appellants, the Chief Adjudication Officer and the Secretary of State for Social Security, from the Court of Appeal (Sir Thomas Bingham, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice McCowan and Lord Justice Hirst) (unreported, April 15, 1994; CA (Civ Div) Transcript No 439 of 1994) which had dismissed the appellants' appeals from the decisions of the Social Security Commissioner, Mr J. Mitchell.

The claimant in the first appeal, Miss Jane Harris, since deceased and represented by Mr Douglas Quinn, sought income support. Her claim was accepted by the Adjudication Officer who decided that she was in residential accommodation at Heathlands, one of the homes run by the Dorset Trust, a voluntary organisation, and transferred to the trust by the respondent, Dorset County Council. That decision was upheld by the Social Security Appeal Tribunal. The commissioner held that there was no arrangement under section 26 of the National Assistance Act 1948 and thus, Miss Harris was not in residential accommodation within the 1948 Act.

The claimant in the second appeal, Mrs Freda Gibbon, a resident of Southlands which was originally owned and managed by Cumbria County Council and later leased to the Westfield Housing Association, a voluntary organisation, claimed income support.

The adjudication officer refused her claim on the ground that she was living in residential accommodation but, bearing in mind her own resources, she was not entitled to income support. The appeal tribunal allowed Mrs Gibbon's appeal. That decision was affirmed by the commissioner.

Section 21 of the National Assistance Act 1948, as amended by section 195(6) of, and paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 23 to the Local Government Act 1972 and section 108(5) of, and paragraph 11(1) of Schedule 13 to the Children Act 1989: provides: "(1) . . . a local authority may with the approval of the secretary of state . . . make arrangements for providing (a) residential accommodation for persons aged 18 or over who by reason of age, infirmity or any other circumstances are in need of care and attention which is not otherwise available to them."

Section 26, as amended by section 44 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 and section 195(6) of, and paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 23 to the Local Government Act 1972, provides: "(1) A local authority (a) may make in lieu or in supplementation of the provision, in premises managed by them or another local authority, of accommodation of the kind mentioned in section 21(1)(a), arrangements: (i) with a voluntary organisation managing any premises, for the provision in those premises of accommodation of that kind. . .

"(2) Any arrangement made by virtue of subsection (1) . . . shall provide for the making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as may be determined by or under the arrangements."

Mr John Howell, QC, for the appellants: Mr Duncan Ouseley, QC and Mr Richard McManus for Mr Quinn and Dorset County Council: Miss Genevra Caws, QC and Mr James Richardson for Mrs Freda Gibbon.

LORD SLYNN said that the question which arose on the two appeals was as to how much income support under the Social Security Act 1986 each claimant was entitled. Was it, during the relevant periods, a weekly sum of £52 or was it £171.40?

Such a difference, at first glance, suggested that the claimants' standard of living would have been substantially affected by the answer. It was not. The question was whether the maintenance of the claimants was to be provided by central or local funds.

In 1986 Miss Harris, then aged 77, needed care and attention. She went to live at Heathlands which was owned by Dorset County Council. From March 1991, the county council granted leases of that and other of their homes to Dorset Trust, a voluntary organisation. The trust was not under the council's control. The council and the trust entered into a management agreement which provided for a financial contribution by the council to the trust's management and expenses.

Miss Harris was asked whether she would like to continue living in that home or wished to be moved to another home which the council might retain. She was informed that there would be no change in her conditions. She would not have to pay any more and would be able to stay there as long as she would wish. She decided to stay and claimed for income support.

In 1990 Mrs Gibbon, under similar circumstances as Miss Harris, went in Southlands, a home providing accommodation under section 21(4) of the 1948 Act, which was owned and managed by the Cumbria County Council.

In July 1991 the council granted a lease of the home to the Westfield Housing Association, a voluntary organisation. Under an agreement between the council and the association they agreed to cooperate in providing care and attention for elderly persons.

The association was to be responsible for the care and management and charge the residents weekly sums equal to the residential care allowances paid by the Department of Social Security. The council agreed to meet part of the association's deficit and to allow its employees to work at the home for which the association was to pay.

In July 1991 Mrs Gibbon was informed that the transfer would not have any effect on the services, that there would be a weekly charge of £160 and she would need to apply for income support. If she wished she could continue living there or she could move to another of the council's homes. She stayed and claimed income support.

It was not the right approach to section 26 to ask first whether in fact arrangements had been made for persons in need of care to be looked after by a voluntary organisation and then to ask incidentally whether those arrangements had provided for payments to be made by the local authority to the other party, on the basis that if they had not the secretary of state had the remedy simply to order the authority to make arrangements which complied with the statutory requirements within a reasonable time.

The provision of accommodation was governed by sections 21 to 24 and 26 of the 1948 Act. Under section 26 arrangements within section 21 included arrangements between the local authority and a voluntary organisation managing any premises to provide such accommodation.

Section 26(2) provided in unqualified terms that such arrangements should provide for making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation.

Thus, the arrangements had to include those provisions so as to qualify as the provision of Part III accommodation. In the absence of that provision the residential accommodation within the meaning of Part III was not provided and the higher rate of income support was payable.

Lord Keith, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hope agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, Department of Social Security; Lawrence Graham; Lawrence Graham for Mr David H. Jenkins, Dorchester: Curwen & Co, Cockermouth.

Attendance allowance for residents

Steane v Chief Adjudication Officer and Another

Before Lord Keith of Kinkel, Lord Mustill, Lord Slynn of Hadley, Lord Nicholls of Birkenhead and Lord Hope of Craighead

[Speeches July 24]

Arrangements for residential accommodation for those in need of care and attention not otherwise available to them under section 26 of the National Assistance Act 1948 should comply with section 26(2) by providing for payments by the local authority to the other party to the arrangement for the accommodation at the rates determined by the arrangements. Where no such provision was included in the arrangements because the claimant paid the charges himself no accommodation was provided for him pursuant to section 21 and he was entitled to an attendance allowance.

Where a claimant was living at a residential home and was being cared for there under arrangements so long as he lived there, and was not in need of accommodation on the ground of illness, he was not a person in need of care and attention not otherwise available to him and the local authority had no statutory power to provide for him accommodation the cost of which could be borne out of local authority funds.

The House of Lords so held dismissing an appeal by the Chief Adjudication Officer and the Secretary of State for Social Security, from the dismissal by the Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Aldous and Mr Justice Forbes) (*The Times* December 19, 1995), of an appeal by the appellants from the decision of the Social Security Commissioner who had affirmed the decision of the Social Security Appeal Tribunal.

The claimant, Mrs Vera Mary Steane, claimed attendance allowance on May 20, 1991 when she was living in accommodation provided in a home transferred to the second respondent, Islecare Ltd., by the Isle of Wight County Council and where she had chosen to stay after the transfer.

The adjudication officer refused her claim. The tribunal found that the change in status and her election meant that her accommodation came outside the provisions made pursuant to Part III of the National Assistance Act 1948 and that, in view of the transfer of the undertaking from the council to Islecare, the council expressed its intention not to pay towards the costs of accommodation and the claimant did not fall within regulation 4(3) of the Social Security (Attendance Allowance) Amendment (No 3) Regulations (SI 1983 No 1741) and was thus entitled to the attendance allowance claimed.

Section 26 of the 1948 Act, as amended by section 44 of the Health Services and Public Health Act 1968 and section 195(6) of, and paragraph 2(3) of Schedule 23 to the Local Government Act 1972, provides: "(1) . . . a local authority (a) may make in lieu or in supplementation of the provision, in premises managed by them or another local authority, of accommodation of the kind mentioned in section 21(1)(a), arrangements: (i) with a voluntary organisation managing any premises, for the provision in those premises of accommodation of that kind. . .

"(2) Any arrangements made by virtue of subsection (1) of this section shall provide for the making by the local authority to the other party thereto of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as may be determined by or under the arrangements."

The National Health Service Act 1977 provides, by paragraph 2 of Schedule 8: "(1) A local social services authority may . . . make arrangements for the purpose of the prevention of illness and for the care of persons suffering from illness and for the aftercare of persons who have been suffering. . ."

Mr John Howell, QC, for the appellants: Mr Roger McCarthy for the respondents.

LORD SLYNN said that on December 18, 1988 Mrs Steane went to live in a residential home called Elmdon which was then owned and run by the Isle of Wight County Council. She was aged 79. She paid the full charge for her accommodation from her own resources.

In 1990 a company called Islecare Ltd, limited by guarantee and a registered charity, was set up for the purpose of managing residential care homes including Elmdon. On January 21, 1991 the council and Islecare entered into an agreement whereby, in consideration of certain payments, the council agreed to supply all necessary staff to enable Islecare to operate certain properties as residential care homes. Islecare undertook to pay for the staff.

Before Elmdon was transferred to Islecare Mrs Steane and other residents were asked whether they would prefer to stay at Elmdon under the management of Islecare or to move to other residential accommodation which continued to be provided by the council.

By a letter dated April 11, 1991 from the council to her son, Mrs Steane was told that future charges by Islecare would have to be agreed with the council but her placement at Elmdon would be secure and that residents who satisfied the appropriate criteria would be entitled to income support in order to assist them in meeting their placement fees although, it was said, Mrs Steane would not satisfy the income support criteria because of the level of her capital. Mrs Steane chose to stay at Elmdon.

Whether the accommodation was from then on accommodation provided under Part III of the 1948 Act depended on the proper construction of section 26. It was an essential feature of arrangements under the section that section 26(2) should be complied with and that the arrangement must provide for the making by the local authority to the other party to the arrangements of payments in respect of the accommodation provided at such rates as might be determined by or under the arrangement. No such provision was included in the arrangements made for Mrs Steane who was to pay to the Elmdon authorities the charges herself. Thus, no accommodation was provided for her pursuant to Part III.

The question was whether accommodation was provided in circumstances in which its cost might be borne wholly or partly out of public or local funds. There was no power for the residential accommodation at Elmdon to be borne out of public or local funds under paragraph 2(1) of Schedule 8 to the National Health Service Act 1977 because Mrs Steane was in no way mentally disordered or in need of care to prevent mental disorder.

She had been provided the accommodation in 1988 by the council because of her age although she did have health problems. She needed care and attention not otherwise available to her because of her age. It was not contended that she was in any event a person needing accommodation on the ground of illness.

The position under Part III of the 1948 Act was different. If Mrs Steane was at the relevant time a person who by reason of age was in need of care and attention which was not otherwise available to her then the council could have made arrangements for her accommodation under section 26(1) so long as it provided for the making of payments by it to the voluntary organisation.

But since Mrs Steane was living at Elmdon and cared for there under the arrangement with Islecare she was not a person who was in need of care and attention not otherwise available to her so long as she remained there. Accordingly, since she did not fall within the category of persons described in section 21(1)(a) as being in need of care and attention the local authority did not have the statutory power under Part III to provide for her accommodation the cost of which could be borne out of local authority funds.

Lord Keith, Lord Mustill, Lord Nicholls and Lord Hope agreed.

Solicitors: Solicitor, DSS; Sharpe Pritchard.

Chairman should not have sat alone

Mobbs v Nuclear Electric Ltd

An industrial tribunal chairman ought not to have sat alone without lay members on a preliminary hearing at which evidence was given and witnesses were cross-examined to determine whether an applicant was an employee for the purposes of a complaint of unfair dismissal and discrimination on the ground of sex.

The Employment Appeal Tribunal (Judge Hull, QC, Miss S. Corby and Mr A. E. R. Manners) so held on July 11 when allowing an appeal by Mrs S. Mobbs from the dismissal by an industrial tribunal chairman last October of her claim against her employers, Nuclear Electric Ltd.

JUDGE HULL said that rule 6(1) of Schedule 1 to the Industrial Tribunals (Constitution and Rules of Procedure) Regulations (SI 1993 No 2687) enabled a chairman sitting alone to determine any issue relating to the entitlement of any party to bring or contest the proceedings where he could properly do so on the basis of written and/or oral submissions. That should be limited to points which involved no issues of fact and would usually be limited to points of law.

When time runs for VAT limit

Commissioners of Customs and Excise v Croydon Hotel and Leisure Co Ltd

The two-year limitation on claims by the VAT authorities under paragraph 4(5) of Schedule 7 of the Value Added Tax Act 1983 began to run from the date of submission of the tax return rather than from when in the accounting period the chargeable event occurred.

The Court of Appeal (Lord Justice Hirst, Lord Justice Auld and Lord Justice Thorpe) so held on July 24 allowing an appeal by the Commissioners of Customs and Excise from the dismissal by Mr Justice Popplewell on May 17, 1995 of the commissioners' appeal from the decision of a VAT tribunal that their claim against the Croydon Hotel and Leisure Co Ltd was out of time.

LORD JUSTICE THORPE said the phrase "prescribed accounting period" in the relevant section had to be construed in its context and against the system by which the tax was administered.

There could be no injustice to taxpayers in holding that time began to run from the end of the prescribed accounting period covered by the return within which the transaction was included.

Decision to be educational and not financial

Regina v Cheshire County Council and Another, Ex parte C

Before Mr Justice Sedley

[Judgment July 11]

Where it fell to an education authority to choose an appropriate school to be named in a statement of special educational needs and there was available a part authority and part privately funded place in a school outside England and Wales where the net cost to the authority would the same as the cost of a particular domestic place then the decision should be made without reference to financial considerations and on purely educational grounds.

Mr Justice Sedley so held in the Queen's Bench Division when allowing the appeal of C against the decision of the Special Educational Needs Tribunal to refuse her appeal against the provisions of a final statement of special educational needs of May 1995 made by Cheshire County Council.

The applicant had an autistic child who had been attending a special school in the United States of America with local authority funding. After providing funding for a year the authority made a final statement of special educational needs which named a specialist school in Cheshire as the appropriate school for the child. The cost of the American school was greater than that of the English one but a private benefactor had volunteered to make up the difference.

Mr Nicholas Bowen for the applicant; Miss Carol Atkinson for the council; the tribunal did not appear and was not represented.

MR JUSTICE SEDLEY said that there was nothing in the statutory scheme which called upon the local education authority to specify the optimum available provision and much in its general duty of husbandry to entitle it to choose the least expensive of the appropriate options. But that did not conclude the argument on part-funding because the availability of funds from other sources might make the net cost of the optimum choice no greater for the education budget than that of the cheapest choice. That would be rare.

To begin with part-funding was available only for schools outside England and Wales. Second, if there was more than one appropriate institution outside Britain, parental means would ordinarily be available to offset both in the same amount.

It was only where the choice was between fully funding a placement in Britain and part-funding a placement abroad in exactly the same net amount that there would be, as there was in this case, a true parity of financial considerations.

In those circumstances, although in no others the choice could and should be made on purely educational grounds. The appeal was to be allowed by remitting the case to the tribunal.

Solicitors: Teacher Stern Selby; Mr Gerry Budd, Chester.

هكذا من الاصل

Equities close above 3,800

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Changes are calculated on the previous day's close, but adjustments are made when a stock is ex-dividend. Changes, yields and price/earnings ratios are based on middle prices.

ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
556	419	Allied Domecq	450	+ 2	6.6	17.0
625	500	Bulmer (HP)†	594		2.8	19.9
121	96	Burn Stewart	101		6.2	21.8
775	615	Glenmorangie A	765		2.0	19.6
464	411	Grand Met†	450	+ 3	4.2	19.1
493	435	Guinness	476	- 5	3.9	15.5
378	315	Highland Dist	371		2.7	17.3
195	150	Macallan-Glen	153		1.2	31.4
803	655	Matthew Clark†	665		4.5	31.7
141	93	Merrydown Wt	121		4.6	
2612½	1706¼	SA Breweries	1762½		2.0	

BANKS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
3666¼	2743¾	ABN-AMRO	3584¾	- 34¾	3.9	12.2
663	528	Abbey Nat	587	- 14	5.0	10.7
385	315	Allied Irish	371	+ 10	4.9	10.6
336	285	Aus New Z	326	+ 3	5.7	8.0
5443¾	3843¾	Bank America	5357½	- 6¼		
316	227½	Bank Scotland	246	- 1	3.5	10.4
903	683	Barclays	900	+ 27½	3.9	9.7
498	413	Bk of Ireland	474	+ 8	4.0	
482	379	Cater Allen	423		8.9	12.5
5637½	4031¼	Citicorp†	5562½	+ 18¾		
392	318	Close Bros	333	+ 2	3.4	14.8
£157⅝	£131½	Commerzbk	£152½	+ 68¾	3.4	
1350	1065¾	Dai Ichi Kan Y	1093¾	- 21¼	0.5	
3412½	2950	Deutsche Bk	3312½		2.4	
803½	593¾	Espirito Santo	712½	- 50	5.0	9.5
1507	1229¾	Fuji Bank Y	1229¾	- 22¼	0.4	
472	337	Gerrard Nat	338		8.5	10.7
252	196	Hambros†	236	- 2	4.0	
1169	931	HSBC	1155	+ 17	4.1	10.8
1135	930	HSBC HK	1121	+ 19	4.3	10.5
421	385	Irish Perm	416	+ 23	3.1	11.4
177	143	King Shaxson	165		6.8	14.3
458	405	Leopold J	448	+ 35	5.6	15.7
355½	234½	Lloyds TSB†	352		4.3	14.9
640	566	Nat Aust Bk	606	+ 7	7.1	7.8
711	605½	Nat West†	659	+ 6½	3.0	9.4
68	50	Rea Brothers	50		2.5	24.0
596	468	Royl Bk Scot	512	+ 4½	4.2	11.3
1380	1185	Schroders	1285	- 2	1.6	17.9
1128	890	Schroders N/V	968	- 2	2.1	13.5
122	98½	Singer & Fried	111	+ 3	4.5	9.2
719	547	Stand Chart	689	- 13	2.2	13.5
105	85½	Union	103	+ 2	3.6	
£174¾	£131¾	Wells Fargo†	£158¼	+ 6¼	2.1	
329¾	264	Westpac	296½	- 1	4.8	
360	268	Wintrust	358		4.5	

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
558	426	Brammer	539		3.3	16.8
25	18	Bridgend Gp	25		1.0	
113	76	Brit Fittings	100		4.5	13.7
290	245	Callyns	285		5.0	22.6
160	105	Caverdale	154		3.8	10.0
107½	78	Charles Sidney	96		4.9	13.5
79	54½	Cook (DC)	70		3.8	
404¾	276¾	Cowie▲	366½	- 3½	3.7	12.5
175	120½	Dag Motors	145		6.6	10.1
163	125¾	Desmarc El	138		2.4	13.8
434	328	Diploma	346		5.3	12.1
407	328	Electrocomponents†	368	+ 3	2.2	23.6
314	172	Eurodis Elec	196	+ 2	3.1	
134	65	Eurodollar	100		5.2	15.0
105	76	European Mtr	93		7.0	10.5
375	286	Evans Halshaw	308		6.7	11.2
67	48	Fife Indmar	50		8.2	6.9
338	248	Finelist Grp	279		2.5	16.4
30½	16½	Gardiner	29		3.8	11.5
76	33½	Glenchewton	74		1.5	54.4
91	77	Gowrings	77	- 1	4.5	11.7
292	216	Harris (Philip)	265		3.9	19.9
293	200¾	Headlam	278		2.2	22.1
200	132	Holders Tech†	178		4.2	16.7
190	153	ISA Intl	183		1.7	16.6
316	231	Inchcape	265	+ 1	4.3	
60	33	Jacks (Wm)	48		4.6	18.6
248	169	Kwik-Fit	247	+ 3	2.5	17.4
389	299	Lex Service†	362	+ 2	5.3	11.6
155	119	Lookers	129	- 3	7.9	7.4
17	10½	Malaya Grp	11¾	- ¼	7.0	12.2
9¼	6¼	Middlesex	6¾	- ¼	1.4	10.8
47	31	[illegible]	40		0.8	
565	440	[illegible]	500		1.9	14.6
348	230	Northamber	282½	+ 2½	1.0	10.4
162	108	PCI	125		7.7	12.1
341	272	Pendragon	315		3.6	16.0
211	145	Perry Gp	186		5.4	11.1
745	602	Premier Farnell	625	+ 5	2.2	16.7
190	135	Quicks Group	188		4.2	15.7
315	185	REA†	266	- 3	1.9	33.6
3	2	Reece	2¾			
61	33	Ronson	33	- 1	5.8	9.9
4½	2	Ross Gp	3¼			
56	46½	SEP Intl	51½		4.1	11.0
195	120	Saltire	143		0.9	19.7
373	246	Time Products	332		3.8	
41	30	Toms Hire	35	+ 1	4.6	18.4
223	123	UMECO†	210	+ 1	2.5	18.4
332½	263¾	Vardy (Reg)▲	308		2.7	
434	325	Wholesale Ftgs	434	+ 11	3.8	
59	25½	Wilshaw	30½	+ 1	3.5	8.1
155	78	Wyko	150		1.5	
133	104	Young (H)	118		4.2	10.9

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
1203	1075	Henderson Ad	1103		5.1	18.6
286	217	Invesco	231		2.5	15.6
48	41	Investment Co†	47		6.1	14.8
298	228	Ivory Sime	288		3.7	
230½	183¼	Jardine Stra	206	- 1¼	4.6	
160	98	Johnson Fry	143	- 1	3.5	6.9
387	328	Liberty Intl	368	+ 5	5.2	20.5
295	218	Lon Forfaiting	260		4.9	13.6
261	215	London Pacific	233	+ 4	8.1	20.6
117	87½	Lon Scot Bk	102		3.2	19.2
166	139	Man ED & Fr	165		7.7	7.9
1354	1069¾	M & G	1074		4.0	19.9
993	847	MAM	948	+ 17	4.6	
109	94	Nat Home Loan	97		1.3	4.3
2575	1830	Perpetual	2303		2.7	19.6
496	395	Provident	448	+ 1	3.9	17.9
336	310	Rathbone Bs	312		4.0	14.6
58½	37½	Rutland Tr	54		2.8	19.6
81	42	SFC Group	81	- 3	6.6	15.9
457	290	S & U	395	+ 7	5.1	10.4
134	100	SJP Capital	112		3.7	7.6
607	498¾	Swire Pacific	566	- 3¼	2.1	22.2
57	32	Towry Law	39		3.2	
8	5	Tiny Hldgs	5½			

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
498	258	Lloyds Chem	472	- 3	2.8	18.1
188½	149¼	MFI	182	- 7	3.0	21.7
498½	416½	Marks Spencer	483	- 5	3.0	19.9
635	525	Menzies (John)	571		3.1	14.3
21	15½	Merchant Retail	19			
1305	615	Moss Bros	1155		1.9	26.3
596	420	Next	545	- 3	2.7	26.5
63	40½	Oliver (G)	41			
535	400	[illegible]	524		2.9	
80	66	Partridge Fine	74		4.9	12.5
56	32	QS Hldgs	39		5.8	
275	191	Rosebys	275	+ 5	2.8	20.5
105	82	Sears	96	- 1	5.1	
34	14½	Signet Group	24½	+ ½		
506	399	Smith WH	482	- 3	4.0	28.3
1010	830	Sotheby's	945	+ 2	1.6	25.3
362	279½	Storehouse†	297	- 3	3.0	16.9
130	90	Stylo	130	- 2	4.6	19.5
231	181	T & S Stores	199	+ 1	4.5	11.8
171	159	Tie Rack	160		2.1	16.0
3¼	2½	Upton & Southern	3¼			
664	542	Vendome†	587	+ 3	2.2	
29½	12	WEW Group	24		1.8	
141	66	Wickes#	69		3.8	
94	52	Wld of Leather	83		2.4	
222	198	Wyevale	200		3.3	17.2

PHARMACEUTICALS

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
350	163¾	Brit Biotech	229	- 6		
715	340	Cantab Pharma	653			
693	473½	Celltech	540	- 10		
588	224	Chiroscience	363	- 17		
447	166	Cortecs	273	- 1		
969	767	Glaxo Wellcome	895	- 4	4.3	12.6
286	209	Medeva†	252		2.1	14.3
248	198	Peptide Thera	205			
808	524	Scotia	710	- 3		
266	183	Shire Pharms	230	- 4		
96	69	SkyePharma	83			
727½	628½	SmithKline	705	- 2	2.5	26.2
525	472	Therp Ant Inc	474			
633	478	Vanguard	500			
1474	1216	Zeneca	1422	- 9	2.9	30.7

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OTHER FINANCIAL

1996 High	Low	Company	Price (p)	+/-	Yld %	P/E
143	95	Aberdeen Tst	95		3.7	18.7
118	77	BWD	111	+ 2	6.1	12.0
41	34½	Berry Bds Nkt	41		2.4	
345	252	Biotec Inv	299			
205	151	Brewin Dolphin	196		4.8	12.0
805	700	Caledonia†	738	- 1	3.0	23.9
2500	1700	Camellia	2400		1.7	20.0
276	213	Cattles	245	- 1	3.5	17.6
42	18	Christie	35			
147	90	EFT Group	113		2.3	13.4
725	536	EFM	638		4.9	15.6
118	85	Exco	95	+ 7	11.8	11.5

BRITISH FUNDS

1996 High	Low	Stock	Price £	+/-	Int yld %	Grs red yld
SHORTS (under 5 years)						
220[illegible]	215[illegible]	Treas 2% 1996	220[illegible]		0.91	5.66
103[illegible]	101[illegible]	Conv 10% 1996	101[illegible]		9.88	5.71
101[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 7% 1997	101[illegible]		6.92	5.67
107[illegible]	103[illegible]	Treas 13¼% 1997	103[illegible]		12.82	5.62
104[illegible]	102[illegible]	Exch 10½% 1997	102[illegible]		10.24	5.67
104[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 1997	102[illegible]		8.50	5.75
114[illegible]	110[illegible]	Exch 15% 1997	110[illegible]		13.56	5.82
106[illegible]	104[illegible]	Exch 9¾% 1998	104[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.29	5.83
102[illegible]	100[illegible]	Treas 7¼% 1998	101[illegible]	-[illegible]	7.14	6.06
101	99[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 1995-98	100[illegible]		6.74	6.18
116[illegible]	112[illegible]	Treas 14% 1998-01	112[illegible]	-[illegible]	12.41	6.23
122[illegible]	117[illegible]	Treas 15½% 1998	118[illegible]	-[illegible]	13.13	6.29
114[illegible]	111[illegible]	Exch 12% 1998	111[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.77	6.49
108[illegible]	105[illegible]	Treas 9½% 1999	106[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.92	6.54
116[illegible]	112[illegible]	Exch 12¼% 1999	113[illegible]	-[illegible]	10.51	6.63
112[illegible]	108[illegible]	Treas 10½% 1999	109[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.58	6.66
98[illegible]	96	Treas 6% 1999	98[illegible]	-[illegible]	6.11	6.69
112[illegible]	108[illegible]	Conv 10¼% 1999	109[illegible]	-[illegible]	9.33	6.82
108[illegible]	104[illegible]	Conv 9% 2000	106[illegible]		8.45	6.89
105[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8% 2000	103[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.72	7.02
124[illegible]	119[illegible]	Treas 13% 2000	120[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.81	7.01
114	109[illegible]	Treas 10% 2001	110[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.01	7.12
MEDIUMS (5 to 15 years)						
101[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 7% 2001	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.06	7.18
114[illegible]	106[illegible]	Treas 9¾% 2002	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.75	7.36
105[illegible]	99[illegible]	Treas 8% 2003	103	+[illegible]	7.77	7.42
117[illegible]	110[illegible]	Treas 10% 2003	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.81	7.48
119[illegible]	114[illegible]	Treas 11½% 2001-04	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.89	7.26
85[illegible]	78[illegible]	Fund 3½% 1999-04	81[illegible]		4.29	6.47
114[illegible]	107[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2004	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.54	7.62
96[illegible]	91[illegible]	Treas 6¾% 2004	94[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.14	7.63
108[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2005	105[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.07	7.68
114[illegible]	108[illegible]	Conv 9½% 2005	111[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.54	7.68
131[illegible]	123[illegible]	Treas 12½% 2003-05	126[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.85	7.60
101[illegible]	94[illegible]	Treas 7½% 2006	98[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.64	7.74
103[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2006	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.77	7.77
104[illegible]	97[illegible]	Treas 8% 2002-06	101[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.88	7.74
125[illegible]	118[illegible]	Treas 11¾% 2003-07	121[illegible]	+[illegible]	9.70	7.53
108[illegible]	101[illegible]	Treas 8½% 2007	104[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.10	7.81
138[illegible]	130[illegible]	Treas 13½% 2004-08	133[illegible]	+[illegible]	10.11	7.60
112[illegible]	105	Treas 9% 2008	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.27	7.85
104[illegible]	96[illegible]	Treas 8% 2009	100[illegible]		7.96	7.91
LONGS (over 15 years)						
88[illegible]	81[illegible]	Treas 6¼% 2010	85[illegible]	+[illegible]	7.33	7.99
112[illegible]	104[illegible]	Conv 9% 2011	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.29	7.98
113[illegible]	104[illegible]	Treas 9% 2012	108[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.28	8.01
82[illegible]	75[illegible]	Treas 5½% 2008-12	79	+[illegible]	6.96	7.79
103[illegible]	95[illegible]	Treas 8% 2013	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.04	8.04
101[illegible]	93[illegible]	Treas 7¾% 2012-15	97	+[illegible]	7.99	8.05
103[illegible]	95[illegible]	Treas 8% 2015	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.04	8.04
111[illegible]	102[illegible]	Treas 8¾% 2017	106[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.21	8.09
141[illegible]	130[illegible]	Exch 12% 2013-17	136[illegible]	+1[illegible]	8.79	8.14
99[illegible]	95[illegible]	Tr 8% 2021	99[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.06	8.06
UNDATED						
45[illegible]	41[illegible]	War Ln 3½%	43[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.12	
32[illegible]	29[illegible]	Treas 2½%	30[illegible]	+[illegible]	8.23	
50[illegible]	46[illegible]	Consols 4%	48[illegible]	-[illegible]	8.32	
INDEX-LINKED on projected inflation of:					10%	5%
113[illegible]	111[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅝% 1998	113[illegible]	+[illegible]	0.98	2.52
182[illegible]	176[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2001	182[illegible]	+[illegible]	2.88	3.41
177[illegible]	171[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2003	177[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.15	3.56
116[illegible]	112[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅜% 2004	116[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.22	3.58
185[illegible]	179[illegible]	Treas IL 2% 2006	185[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.33	3.61
167[illegible]	161[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2009	166[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.43	3.66
173[illegible]	166[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2011	172[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.49	3.69
143	136[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2013	141[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.53	3.71
152[illegible]	145[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2016	150[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.57	3.74
146	139[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2020	144[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.62	3.76
122	115[illegible]	Treas IL 2½% 2024	119[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.62	3.75
120[illegible]	113[illegible]	Treas IL 4⅛% 2030	118[illegible]	+[illegible]	3.62	3.75

THE TIMES UNIT TRUST INFORMATION SERVICE

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
AIB UNIT TRUST MANAGERS LTD 01895 258 783				
Groband Amer	215.90	228.50	+ 0.70	0.12
Groband Equity	275.80	293.40	+ 1.60	1.49
Groband Euro	266.10	281.60†	- 0.50	0.57
Groband Expt Bd	129.80	134.50		2.62
Groband Gilt	74.82	77.29†	+ 0.13	6.70
Groband Japan	176.50	186.80	- 3.10	
AXA EQUITY & LAW UNIT TST MGRS 01203 553 231				
General Acc	653.80	695.80	+ 1.20	2.47
General Inc	555.50	591.00	+ 1.10	2.47
UK Growth Acc	444.90	473.30	+ 1.60	2.66
UK Growth Inc	292.00	310.70	+ 1.00	2.66
Higher Inc Acc	790.80	841.10	+ 4.50	4.09
Higher Inc Inc	431.20	458.80	+ 2.40	4.09
Gilts/Fxd Int Acc	211.00	222.90	+ 0.50	5.54
Gilts/Fxd Int Inc	94.72	100.00	+ 0.12	5.54
Nth America	368.00	389.40	- 0.10	
Europe	358.70	381.70	1.30	0.37
Brit Excell	88.33	93.97	+ 0.27	2.86
Brit Fndmtls Acc	114.00	121.30	+ 0.70	4.70
Brit Fndmtls Inc	78.14	83.13	+ 0.54	4.70
Global Opps	103.30	109.90	- 0.60	0.12
Balanced Acc	62.84	66.86	+ 0.12	2.63
Balanced Inc	59.46	63.26	+ 0.11	2.63
Japan Acc	46.73	49.72	- 0.68	
Pac Basin Acc	408.70	434.80		0.86
ABBEY UNIT TST MGRS 0345 717 373				
Gilts & Fixed Int	130.40	138.40	+ 0.30	7.05
High Inc Equity	181.80	194.20†	- 0.80	4.44
Worldwide Bond	289.20	306.60†	- 0.20	4.80
American Growth	367.90	394.10	+ 2.70	0.32
Asian Pacific	329.50	352.40	- 1.10	0.04
Assets & Earnings	298.00	318.70	+ 1.60	2.83
Euro Capital Acc	183.80	196.60	+ 0.10	0.80
Extra Inc	43.61	46.39†		7.73
General	271.80	289.30†	+ 2.10	3.03
Global Opps	68.23	72.58	+ 0.04	0.56
Japan	122.10	130.60	- 2.78	
Managed Inc	48.18	51.25†	+ 0.11	4.88
Mastertrust	167.00	178.80		1.02
US Emerging Cos	206.00	219.20	+ 1.30	
Ethical	79.75	84.84	+ 0.48	2.51
International	138.70	147.50	- 0.40	0.29
Dividend & Growth	67.63	71.95†	+ 0.36	4.27
Global Gwth & Sec	73.30	78.20	- 0.12	2.34
Latin America	65.31	69.48	- 0.21	
Capital Reserve	144.90	144.90		4.83
ABERFORTH UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 220 0733				
UK Small Cos	2282.00	2376.00		
ABTRUST UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0800 833 580				
Amer Inc & Growth	58.02	61.30	+ 0.14	0.50
Emerging Mkts	73.51	77.57†	+ 0.03	0.04
European	152.70	158.80	- 0.40	
Exempt	1079.00	1143.00†	+ 3.00	1.63
Extra Income #	45.28	48.47	+ 0.06	6.60
Far East Emg Eco	131.60	139.50†	+ 0.50	0.45
Fixed Interest #	24.72	25.71†	+ 0.06	9.37
Fund Inv Tst	148.00	155.30†	+ 0.10	9.88
Japan	187.70	195.10†	- 2.50	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
CAZENOVE UNIT TRUST MGMT LTD 0171 606 0708				
Cazenove Portfolio	100.35	106.95†	+ 0.27	2.40
American Portfolio	121.25	128.79	+ 0.85	0.68
European Portfolio	133.94	142.91	- 0.10	0.62
High Income	51.33	51.45†	+ 0.14	7.18
Japanese Portfolio	69.42	73.76†	- 1.30	
Pacific Portfolio	156.01	167.76	+ 0.85	1.43
UK Equity	96.48	103.01	+ 0.39	3.10
UK Equity & Bd	57.31	60.73	+ 0.26	6.31
CENT BD OF FIN OF CHURCH OF ENG 0171 588 1815				
Inv Fund	750.57	761.91	+ 18.62	4.32
Fxd Int Sec	155.80	156.42	+ 0.39	9.14
COIF CHARITY FUNDS 0171 588 1815				
Investment Inc	724.71	735.67	+ 7.39	4.53
Investment Acc	1733.00	1733.53	+ 33.75	
Fixed Int Inc	135.03	125.53	+ 0.07	10.82
Fixed Int Acc	222.69	223.50	+ 0.11	
CITY FINANCIAL UT MGRS LTD 0171 407 5966				
Beckman Intl	90.96	96.10	+ 2.60	2.99
Beck Bio-Tech	39.30	42.62†		
Acorn Ethical Tst	177.86	186.77		0.46
City Fin Assets	81.22	85.29		1.57
City Fin America	110.93	116.49	+ 6.35	
City Fin Intl	90.21	94.73	+ 2.52	0.45
City Fin Japan	152.03	159.64	- 1.08	
Friars Hse Cap	314.29	334.35†		2.53
Friars Hse Inc	197.52	210.13		3.58
Buckley Yield Gth	143.22	151.81	+ 5.05	
J Sid Inc/Gth Inc	54.11	56.82†		3.39
Shaw Utilities	58.40	59.58	+ 0.71	6.11
CITY OF LONDON UNIT TST MGRS LTD 0171 711 0771 Admin: 01277 227 300				
Emerging Markets	57.68	61.20†	+ 0.10	
CLERICAL MEDICAL UT MGRS LTD 0345 772 233				
American Gwth	78.59	83.61	+ 0.16	
Dragon Growth	72.72	77.24	+ 0.14	0.37
Equity High Inc	88.97	95.28	+ 0.53	4.22
-do- Accum	126.58	135.58	+ 0.75	4.22
Extra Income Inc	26.26	27.64†	+ 0.01	7.53
Extra Income Acc	28.47	29.97	+ 0.01	7.53
European Gwth	62.73	66.56	- 0.20	0.95
Evergreen	32.73	34.47	+ 0.02	
General Equity	101.02	107.18	+ 0.39	3.05
Japan Growth	51.33	54.61	- 0.87	
Pedigree Gwth	62.96	66.98	+ 0.29	2.38
Pnd Sm Cos Inc	38.12	40.55	+ 0.04	1.47
-do- Accum	40.38	42.96	+ 0.05	1.47
Retirement Inc #	27.47	29.22	+ 0.16	5.93
Special Sits	46.40	49.36	+ 0.19	2.33
UK & Overseas	58.92	62.51	- 0.04	0.70
COLONIAL UT MGRS LTD 01634 898 000				
Balanced	67.28	70.08	+ 0.33	4.10
Capital	81.36	84.75	+ 0.17	2.31
High Income	50.76	52.87†	+ 0.07	7.17
Top 50	54.75	57.03	+ 0.25	2.14
COMMERCIAL UNION FINANCIAL MGMT INTL LTD 0181 686 9818 PRESTIGE PORTFOLIO (PPT FUNDS)				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Sector Values Inc #	100.30	105.90	+ 0.60	3.81
Sector Value Gwth	101.10	106.80	+ 0.60	2.21
Hy 5 Europe	100.50	105.40	- 0.10	2.83
Slater Gwth	156.00	164.60	+ 1.00	0.79
JUPITER UT MGRS LTD 0171 581 3020				
World Health	208.00	221.30	+ 13.50	
Income #	207.92	221.19†	+ 1.43	4.37
UK Growth	83.29	88.60†	+ 0.35	1.93
Intl Growth	90.63	96.41†	- 0.06	0.44
Ecology	100.93	107.36	- 0.17	1.00
European	198.31	210.97†	+ 0.13	
Far Eastern	311.70	331.50	- 2.00	
UK Special Sits	48.32	51.53	+ 0.29	

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
N Amer Growth	134.70	143.14	+ 0.74	0.62
Special Sits Growth	26.94	28.65	+ 0.06	2.04
UK Growth	449.79	478.50	+ 1.44	2.68
-do- Accum	610.33	649.28	+ 1.97	2.68
MW JOINT INVESTORS LTD 01620 825867				
Balanced Fd #	1468.90	1492.20		2.90
Income #	1021.30	1037.50†		4.00
MALDON UNIT TRUST MGRS LTD 0131 222 4342				
Maldon General	160.20	164.10†		3.69

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	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
KLEINWORT BENSON UNIT TRUSTS Dealers: 0171 956 7354				
Income Trusts				
Bond Income	100.70	104.10	+ 0.10	7.30
Gilt Yield	119.00	125.50	+ 0.10	6.55
Global Income	232.60	247.40†	- 0.30	3.60
High Yield	152.00	161.70†	- 1.00	5.54
-do- Accum	494.80	526.40†	+ 3.30	5.54
Smllr Cos Div	60.34	64.19†	- 0.38	3.44
Capital Growth Trusts				
Amer Smllr Cos	152.10	161.80	+ 0.60	
Asian Growth	338.50	360.10	+ 0.50	0.23
-do- Accum	397.60	423.20	+ 0.60	0.23
North American	107.70	114.60	+ 0.21	0.23
European Special	125.90	133.90	- 0.70	1.24
European	180.70	192.20	- 0.60	0.47
-do- Accum	239.10	254.40	- 0.70	0.47

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
MARKS & SPENCER UNIT TRUST LTD 0800 363432				
M & S Inv Ptolio	175.30	180.70†	+ 0.20	2.55
-do- Accum	208.00	214.50†	+ 0.38	2.56
UK Sel Ptolio	153.30	158.10	+ 0.70	2.53
-do- Accum	184.80	190.50	+ 0.70	2.53
UK 100 Cos	113.50	113.50	+ 0.60	2.83
MARLBOROUGH FUND MGRS LTD 01204 364 842				
Managed Tst	73.91	78.62		3.67
MARTIN CURRIE UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0131 479 4646				
Intl Income	81.77	86.80	+ 0.29	3.66
European	106.30	112.90		0.62
Income #	81.41	86.42†	+ 0.58	4.27

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Gilt & Fixed	98.06	104.00†	- 0.30	5.35
Income	99.85	106.20†	- 0.09	2.21
Japan Growth	53.36	56.66†	0.61	
Managed	81.85	87.07†	- 0.16	2.07
Money Market	93.97	99.61†	- 0.02	4.02
North American	110.30	117.00†	0.70	0.39
Midland FSAVCS Unit Trust				
British	116.70	124.20†	- 0.50	1.42
European Growth	125.30	132.90†		0.01
Gilt & Fixed Int	92.56	98.16†	- 0.19	5.35
Income	97.99	104.20†	- 0.60	2.46
Japan Growth	53.18	56.37†	- 0.60	
Managed	78.19	83.18†	- 0.15	2.00
Money Market	96.65	91.95†	- 0.02	4.00
North American	99.73	105.70†	0.60	0.46
Midland Executive Pension Unit Trust				
British	116.00	123.40†	- 0.60	1.42
European Growth	122.70	130.00†		
Gilt & Fixed Int	84.72	89.85†	+ 0.17	5.47
Income	95.41	101.50†	+ 0.60	2.50
Japan Growth	54.38	57.64†	0.61	
Managed	80.85	86.01†	+ 0.15	2.02
Money Market	80.03	84.84†	- 0.02	4.10
North American	111.60	118.30†	- 0.70	0.35
MILLENNIUM FUND MGMT LTD 0171 407 5966				
International (US$)	14.77	15.65		
MORGAN GRENFELL INVEST FDS LTD Dealers: 0171 588 7474 Enquiries: 0171 588 7171				
American Gwth	460.90	489.30†	+ 1.10	
European Gth Inc	601.40	645.70	1.80	
-do- Accum	607.90	650.70	- 1.80	
Intl Gwth	231.00	245.40	- 1.20	
UK Equity Inc	219.00	232.90	- 0.90	4.14
Do Accum	293.60	312.30	+ 1.20	4.14
UK Ind Trckr Inc	187.00	199.60†	- 0.80	2.54
-do- Accum	231.40	246.90†	- 0.90	2.54
US Eq and Tst Inc	273.90	287.90	- 0.60	0.84
Japan Tracker	76.35	80.51		
Asian Tracker	229.90	243.90	- 0.30	0.14
Mngd Ptolio Inc	186.40	198.80	+ 0.60	1.98
Mngd Ptolio Acc	203.40	216.90	+ 0.60	1.98
Deposit Inc	100.31	100.31	- 0.01	5.37
Europa	293.10	313.70†	2.00	
Genesis	209.80	226.60	- 0.10	2.46
High Income	70.90	72.12†	- 0.04	10.00
MURRAY JOHNSTONE UT MGMT 0345 090 933				
Acumen	107.90	110.40	- 0.70	2.20
Acumen Inc	98.85	101.10	- 0.30	2.20
Acumen Reserve	94.06	95.00†	+ 0.15	7.66
-do- Inc	73.65	74.39†	+ 0.12	7.66
American Growth	70.60	72.36†	- 1.36	
Equity Income #	102.60	105.30	+ 0.60	4.59
European	80.78	85.30	- 0.10	0.60
Smaller Cos	92.07	96.52	- 0.52	1.09
W'wide Eqty	79.01	80.67†	- 0.74	
Global Bond	45.78	46.28†	0.01	5.77
UK Growth	110.90	113.70	+ 0.60	1.62
Pacific Growth	119.90	123.70†	+ 0.40	0.58
Japan Growth	102.40	104.10†	- 1.90	
NFU MUTUAL UNIT MGRS LTD Enquiries: 01277 227 300 Dealing: 01277 261 010				
Avon Equity	140.21	152.35†	+ 0.23	2.85
N&P UNIT TRUST MANAGEMENT LTD				

	Sell	Buy	+/-	Yld %
Special Sits	152.30	162.00	+ 0.60	1.42
-do- Accum	158.30	168.40	+ 0.70	1.42
Technology	696.60	741.10		
UK Blue Chip	87.22	92.81	+ 0.44	3.08
-do- Accum	100.30	106.70	+ 0.60	3.08
PRUDENTIAL UNIT TRUSTS LTD 0181 478 3377 Client Enq: 0171 911 4490				
Managed Fd	30.81	32.47	- 0.02	1.75
Cash Haven Inc	100.80	101.29†	- 0.01	5.07
Cash Haven Acc	118.16	118.75†	- 0.02	5.07
Dist Trust Inc	105.12	108.95†	- 0.32	6.37
Dist Trust Acc	117.84	122.11†	+ 0.37	6.37
Global Growth	105.21	111.93†	0.59	1.41
Equity Inc	89.44	95.15†	- 0.79	4.59
Equity	865.80	918.96	- 3.64	2.78
European	271.41	281.35	0.19	0.76
High Income	97.00	37.87†	- 0.53	5.34
Intl Gth	222.16	236.56†	- 0.44	0.75
Intl Sm Co	98.27	104.54	- 0.31	0.64
Japanese	224.13	232.26	3.44	
Nth Amer	238.53	247.00†	0.12	1.25
Pacific Mkts	116.78	129.02†	0.92	0.69
Premier Inc	48.27	50.24†	- 0.10	6.57
Sm Cos	109.64	116.63	0.07	1.72
Spec Sits	124.69	132.64†	+ 0.22	2.66
UK Growth	146.32	155.66	+ 0.60	2.29
QUILTER FUND MANAGEMENT LTD 0171 407 5966				
Hi Inc Idx Inc	81.50	85.70	+ 0.02	7.83
Investment Trust	112.90	118.72	+ 0.50	
UK Smaller Cos	107.72	113.27†	+ 0.06	1.23
RELIANCE UNIT MGRS LTD 01892 510 033				
British Life	335.40	355.70	- 1.50	1.49
ROTHSCHILD FUND MANAGEMENT Dealers: 0171 623 1000				
Five Arrows Funds				
America (Inc)	667.79	704.41	+ 3.25	0.11
America (Acc)	776.71	825.50	- 3.81	0.11
Amer Smlr Cos	58.59	62.62	- 0.12	
Asia	56.15	60.15	+ 0.29	
European	420.60	445.55	+ 0.22	0.38
Japan	239.59	254.84	5.23	
Jap Smllr Cos	44.81	47.81	0.67	
Major UK Cos	115.24	120.03†	+ 0.93	1.96
Small UK Cos	395.36	430.29	+ 0.69	0.94
UK Equity Inc	185.10	195.49	- 1.19	3.47
Five Arrows Portfolio Fund				
Asia Pacific	52.16	54.47†	- 0.08	
Cash	49.30	50.20†	- 0.01	3.15
Emerging Mkts	49.82	52.03†	+ 0.18	
Europe	62.57	65.34†	- 0.14	
Global Fixed Int #	52.63	54.96†	+ 0.05	5.69
Japan	45.11	47.11†	0.47	
North America	68.62	71.66†		
UK	63.67	66.49†	+ 0.16	0.54
UK Equity Inc #	60.48	63.16†	- 0.06	4.18
UK Fixed Int #	50.99	53.25†	- 0.13	6.35
Portfolio Service PEP				
Pep Gth Port	51.34	53.20	9.06	
Pep Inc Port #	49.69	51.49	+ 0.03	4.18
RAM Personal Pension				
Deposit	89.66	94.37	- 0.01	
Gilt	99.85	105.09	+ 0.32	
Managed	116.72	122.86	+ 0.24	
Portfolio	50.27	52.91	- 0.04	

هكذا من الاعلان

■ FILM 1

So much hokum, so much palaver, so much of everything: it's all there in the sci-fi blockbuster *Independence Day*

■ FILM 2

John Sayles's latest, *The Secret of Roan Inish*, creeps up and charms you with its blend of myth and realism

THE TIMES ARTS

■ FILM 3

Chekhov's *Uncle Vanya* is transposed to North Wales, in the Anthony Hopkins vehicle *August*

■ FILM 4

With a cast like robots and a script short on jokes, there isn't much to recommend in *The Stupids*

CINEMA: **Geoff Brown** sees *Independence Day* put the cause of possible intergalactic co-existence back several aeons

Strangers are just fiends we do not know

On the phone to his Secretary of Defence, the President of America asks: "Could you say that again?" This is understandable: at the very least you have to gulp if someone tells you that aliens are entering our atmosphere in spaceships 15 miles wide. But then the entire movie of **Independence Day** demands a double-take. So much hokum. So much palaver. So much of everything: exploding buildings, marauding fireballs, aerial dogfights, military hardware, a population stampede, plus gung-ho rhetoric that would not disgrace John Wayne's *The Green Berets*. The alien invaders mean to wipe out the world; this movie aims to wipe out audiences, or at least leave them exhausted.

The director Roland Emmerich and his production partner Dean Devlin, emboldened by the surprise success of their last extravaganza, *Stargate*, know precisely what they are up to. They are mixing genres. The plot returns us to 1950s sci-fi, when unfriendly visitors from outer space parked their saucers, hatched their pod people, and tickled America's latent paranoia about foreign enemies. But that is only the plot. From its physical trappings you would actually take *Independence Day* to be a war movie, a monster movie, a 1970s disaster movie and a video game, all bundled together to make an outsize, indigestible popcorn feast.

Like the best, or worst, disaster movies (the distinction is tenuous), no star gets to act high and mighty. Saving the world from destruction requires team effort, spread among a rainbow coalition of races and religions. There is Bill Pullman as the affable President, a former Gulf War pilot currently fighting the wimp factor in office. Jeff Goldblum injects quirky comedy as the computer genius who finds a kink in the aliens' armour and keeps up a double-act with his fusspot father (Judd Hirsch).

Independence Day
Odeon Leicester Square
12, 140 mins
Outsize, indigestible popcorn feast

The Secret of Roan Inish
Virgin Haymarket
PG, 103 mins
Magic and myth off the Irish coast

August
Curzon Mayfair
PG, 90 mins
Uncle Vanya goes Welsh

The Stupids
Odeon West End
PG, 94 mins
Mirthless comedy from John Landis

But for many the identification figure will be Will Smith (from television's *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air*), the cocky fighter pilot who thumps a captured alien in the tentacles as he shouts a sarcastic "Welcome to Earth". Finer emotions are also squeezed in: to help with this the cast also includes estranged wives, cute children, and a dog.

Emmerich drives his gargantuan film at a steady pace as the alien invasion moves in for the kill in the days leading up to July 4, America's Independence Day. First they wreak havoc in the major cities from the massive ships that hang in the air like clouds of granite. Then they send out devilish planes that shoot down the cream of the American airforce in battles lifted from a video game. Finally Doomsday arrives, July 4, unless Goldblum's impossible long-shot succeeds.

All the time these aliens follow the Dalek creed: "Exterminate! Exterminate!" We know nothing about them, apart from their talents as extra-terrestrial locusts. This may create a spectacular adversary, but it does not allow for sophisticated drama. Sci-fi movies of the 1950s had their share of global devastation, but the stories were focused and the aliens treated with some respect. *Independence Day* improves on the Toytown spaceships and back-projection flaws of the past, but it throws away much resonance and intelligence by ignoring its own science-fiction and striving to be the biggest carnival ride of all time.

For truly imaginative fantasy this week, you must turn to John Sayles's moving and beautiful **The Secret of Roan Inish**, now two years old (see interview below). No blunderbuss techniques for Sayles; this is a film that creeps up and charms you by degrees with its blend of myth and realism, its cast of fisher folk, seals, gulls and Selkies — legendary Celtic creatures, half-seal and half-human.

At first sight it seems strange to find Sayles, a mordant chronicler of American social behaviour, washed up off the Irish coast. But he has always loved the spinning of tales, the sound of people talking; and this adaptation of a Rosalie K. Fry novella pays full homage to Ireland's oral tradition as it traces the adventures of young Fiona, sent to live with her grandparents near the deserted seal island of Roan Inish.

Sayles also keeps faith with his sense of place, and his concern for characters' working lives. Other directors might use this material to slip into a whimsical bog. Sayles stays on the ground. He revels in the magical landscapes, the mysterious light and the infinite colours of the sea, but he also shows us how cottages are whitewashed and boats tarred.

Multicoloured skies at night, special effects co-ordinator's delight: atmospheric disturbances presage the arrival of the aliens in Independence Day

Haskell Wexler's photography is crucial to the film's success. He never gets pretty-pretty: there is a hard, clear edge to the sky, the stones, the waves and seaweed. The film's spell could also have been broken if the cast acted and spoke like prancing leprechauns. But Sayles's script is refreshingly free of Irish caricature; and the sober performance of Jeni Courtney, a ten-year-old from Belfast, as the questing Fiona sets the tone for the whole cast.

The film's only problem is its audience. Although children lie at the heart of the drama, *Roan Inish* cannot be placed in a pigeonhole for kids. Hardcore Sayles fans, however, might well find its story too slight; and the crowds who treat movies as the modern equivalent of gladiator combat will find nothing worth stampeding for. But for adults who still have their childhood inside them, and can accept the beauty of a haunting tale simply told, *The Secret of Roan Inish* is a gift from the gods.

"He's mad — and Welsh," Leslie Phillips says. It's a dangerous combination, and at times Anthony Hopkins's fruity caperings in **August** get to be too much. He makes animal noises. He waves his hands. Since Hopkins is also his own director, not much can be done to stop this, although Hopkins certainly allows the rest of the cast, among them Kate Burton, Rhian Morgan and Gawn Grainger, to bring out their finer points.

This is *Uncle Vanya* transposed by screenwriter Julian Mitchell to a country house in North Wales at the end of the 19th century. Hopkins is the frustrated Vanya, now christened Ieuan, and first introduced indolently spread out on a sofa. Phillips is the Serebryakov equivalent, the estate's absentee owner who arrives from England with his young American-born wife to play havoc in a household whose emotions are volatile enough already.

The shift of continents works well enough, as it did when Michael Blakemore sent *Chekhov's play down under in Country Life*: the human heart and the anguish of lost opportunities are much the same anywhere. But the film's success is severely limited by a lack of dramatic rhythm. Hopkins directs scene by scene, often in unpleasant close-up; you never sense a shaping hand moving events forward, and the lurches in tone between farce and melodrama become jarring.

Irrelevancies, too, pile up. The Welsh Tourist Board may appreciate hills rolling in golden sunlight minute after minute, but the landscape fetish drains the film of energy. Cut-aways to a mining tragedy also seem an intrusion. To get the best of *August* you have to snatch a moment here, a moment there: a frustrating experience.

But not as bad as watching **The Stupids**. John Landis's new film, based on a series of children's books about a household with a genius for grasping the wrong end of the stick, makes two big mistakes. It went into production with a script nowhere near funny enough, even given the current fashion for dumber and dumber comedy. Landis then forced the cast to act like robots and squeeze out any resemblance to likeable human beings. The Three Stooges at their most infantile could still raise a wan smile; but you would have to be desperate, or exceptionally young, to enjoy Tom Arnold's Stanley Stupid.

'American powertrip'

SNAP VERDICT

Every week, young film fans discuss the latest releases . . .

INDEPENDENCE DAY

Matt Jones, 22: Rampant flag-waving and mass American patriotism are in abundance, as are the obligatory ridiculous English stereotypes. Hugely entertaining, but take water biscuits to complement the cheese.

Derek Baugh, 20: A very watchable film with phenomenal effects that make *War Of The Worlds* look like playground fisticuffs. However, the *Star-Spangled Banner* should have formed the entire soundtrack, such is the extent of this American powertrip.

Jane Gibson, 22: A roller-coaster of effects-induced adrenalin rushes — I think the audience was as relieved to survive as the characters. Ignore the flag-waving and laugh and love it.

Antony Wallbank, 19: You'll laugh in the right and the wrong places. You'll marvel at the gung-ho rubbish American speeches. But you won't be able to take your eyes off it.

AUGUST

Matt: You want to care about this beautifully played drama as it unfolds, but somehow you find yourself distanced.

Derek: Wonderfully photographed landscapes are effectively juxtaposed with the depiction of a living hell. Includes the ingredients to be successful, but falls short.

Jane: Anthony Hopkins confirms that he is our finest screen talent. However, it is not for a lack of good performances that the film suffers, but more because of an inability to reach the audience on an emotional level.

Antony: A pleasant directorial debut, but lacking any bite, even in the displays of envy, seduction, jealousy and the occasional flash of humour. For die-hard Hopkins fans or the members of countryside rambling clubs.

A self-made lifetime in his own legends

The Secret of Roan Inish is something of a stylistic departure for its fiercely independent maker, John Sayles. **Carol Allen** reports

Celtic myths about a baby boy raised in the wild by seals, or a sailor being rescued by a Selkie — half-woman, half-seal — might seem to be unusual grist for the cinematic mill of John Sayles, whose previous films sprang largely from the realities of 20th-century America.

But *The Secret of Roan Inish* appealed to him on three levels. "First, the Selkie story is like a lot of Native American myths about the bond between human beings and animals, stemming from the hunter-gatherer culture, when you had to know intimately the habits and almost the soul of the animals you hunted in order to survive."

Then the plot, about a ten-year-old girl discovering the history and legends of the isolated island culture from which she springs, reminded him of the films he himself had identified with as a child — movies such as *Tiger Bay* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, which were not children's films but had a child as protagonist. The third element he took from his personal heritage as an Irish-American.

"The Selkie myth is common to the Scottish and the Irish islands. But the main reason I transposed the story from Scotland to Ireland was that Irish-American literature and song is so much about loss, the place left behind, and here was a story about people who had lost their island and were wondering if they could get it back."

The Sayles family has lived in America for four generations. Sayles himself was brought up in Schenectady, New York, home of the General Electric company and once known as "the city that lights the world". "It was a working-class neighbourhood", he says, "with a lot of labour versus management tension" — a theme he later developed in *Matewan*, in terms of the West Virginia coal miners strike of the 1920s.

During high school and college holidays, he worked as a hospital orderly and in factories; work he returned to after graduation, while trying to establish himself as a writer. "I got out of college in 1972 at a time of political unrest and a shrinking economy," he says. "My best job was when I got into the meat packers' union and I was a sausage-maker in an Italian sausage factory on union minimum wage, which was twice what I had been making. I finished my first novel, *Pride of the Bimbos*, on unemployment insurance when I got laid off from the sausage factory."

With *Union Dues*, his second novel, Sayles also acquired an agent with film contacts, and started writing screenplays, initially for Roger Corman's low-budget film factory, the training ground for many other now-established film-makers. With his earnings from these, he financed his first movie as writer/director, *The Return of the Secausus Seven*, a film which some have compared to *The Big Chill*.

"*The Big Chill* is about people who've lost their idealism. The people in *Return of the Secausus Seven* are people who are trying desperately to hold on to it in a world that's not that friendly to their ideals any more," Sayles says. "It's very much about people turning 30, when you realise the world isn't going to change the way you wanted it to when you were a young activist, which is politically what was happening at that time.

MARTIN BEDDALL

John Sayles: "I want to make movies about things I've never seen up on a screen"

"It's one of three movies I've made that are about being a certain age. *Baby It's You* is very much a movie about being in your teens and early twenties and that time of your life when anything seems possible and then you discover that there are walls and ceilings and things that you cannot go beyond. *Passion Fish* is about people who are turning 40, the age at which you not only realise the world is not going to change the way you want it to, but your own life is not necessarily going to turn out the way you thought or hoped it would."

Sayles is now 45 with greying sideburns, tall (6ft 4in) with the self-reliant air that typifies one aspect of the spirit that built America, the sort of man who does not "work for wages". The impression is borne out by the way he makes his films. He still finances them largely by writing screenplays for television and rewrites of other people's films, which have recently included *Apollo 13* and *The Quick and the Dead*.

A rare exception is his forthcoming *Lone Star*, which reaches Britain in October. It is a western about a sheriff investigating a murder that happened 37 years earlier in which the prime suspect is his own father. *Lone Star* was — unusually for Sayles — totally financed by a major distributor. But, with his next project, a "heart of darkness" road movie to be made in Spanish on location in Latin America, Sayles expects to be the main, if not the sole, investor.

"It's a way to make what you, as an independent film-maker, want to make. So many films have other films as their references, as though they've been made by somebody who's spent his life in front of a screen and has never had a job other than in films.

"I want people to leave the theatre not relating the film to other movies, but thinking about their lives, the lives of their friends and what the movie itself was about. If I'm going to spend a year of my life making a movie, I want to make it about something I've read or seen in the world but never seen up on a screen."

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■ CHOICE 1

Mikhail Pletnev brings the Russian National Orchestra to the Proms

VENUE: Tonight at the Albert Hall

■ CHOICE 2

Josephine Barstow leads a concert performance of *Albert Herring*

VENUE: Tonight at the Royal Hall, Harrogate

THE TIMES ARTS

■ VIDEOS

Plenty of chic bloodshed in Robert Rodriguez's tale of the balladeer with a case full of guns, *Desperado*

■ RECORDS

Placido Domingo dreams the impossible dream in a kitsch recording of *Man of La Mancha*

TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Maxey

LONDON

BBC PROMS 96: The first of two concerts this evening (7pm) is also the Proms' debut of the **Russian National Orchestra**, conducted by Mikhail Pletnev. Lyadov's atmospheric poems *Baba-Yaga*, *The Enchanted Lake* and *Kikimora* are given with Mozart's Clarinet Concerto (soloist Michael Collins) and Shostakovich's Tenth Symphony. At 10pm, Ivor Bolton conducts the **St James's Singers** and **St James's Baroque Players** in the Overture to Rameau's *Zaïs* and his motet *In Convertendo*, Rebel's depiction of chaos from *The Elements* and Charpentier's *Te Deum*.
Albert Hall, Kensington Gore, SW7 (0171-589 8212). Tonight, 7pm, 10pm

BLITZ '96: This four-week festival of dance enters its penultimate week with a day of free events relating to the mesmerising Kathak style of North Indian classical dance. The genre's leading exponent, Alpana Sengupta presents a series of workshops, story-telling sessions and performances.
Festival Hall, South Bank (0171-960 4242 for details). Today, 10.30am-7pm

A SMALL WORLD: Mustapha Matura's play, set in a Brooklyn bar where a couple from Trinidad remember their reasons for leaving. Roland Rees directs.
Southwark Playhouse, 62 Southwark Bridge Rd, SE1 (0171-620 3494). Opens tonight, 8pm. Then Tue-Sat, 8pm

ELSEWHERE

EDINBURGH: Although the highly competitive arena of the Festival Fringe officially begins on Sunday, Theatre Cryptic presents **Parallel Lines**, inspired by Molly Bloom's soliloquy in James Joyce's *Ulysses* from today (Traverse Theatre, 0131-228 1404; various times). Over at the Pleasance (0131-556 6550, today-Aug 31 5.40pm), the prolific comedy talents of **Curried Goat** present their latest sketch show. The Pleasance is also the venue for Booker Prize-winner Michael Ondaatje's one-man theatre production of **The Collected Works of Billy the Kid** (today-Aug 31; 11.15am), while, at 11pm, George Dillon stars in **The Remembrance of Edgar Allan Poe** (today-Aug 31, not Tues).
Fringe box office (0131-226 5138)

EXETER: The Northcott Theatre Company presents an adaptation by its Artistic Director, John Durning, of Henry James's novella **The Turn of the Screw**. Sally Ann Burnett plays the young governess in this haunting psychological thriller.
Northcott, Stocker Road (01392 493 493). Opens tonight, 7.30pm. Then Mon-Fri 7.30pm, Sat, 8pm. Until August 31

HARROGATE: Josephine Barstow, Della Jones, Robert Lloyd and Felicity Palmer lead an outstanding cast in a concert performance of Britten's comic opera **Albert Herring**. Steuart Bedford conducts the Northern Sinfonia.
Royal Hall (festival box office 01423 565 757). Tonight, 7.30pm

SOUTH SHIELDS: An innovative, award-winning production by Northern Broadsides of Shakespeare's romantic comedy **A Midsummer Night's Dream**. Directed by Barry Rutter.
The Customs House, Mill Dam (0191-454 1234). Tonight-Sat, 7.30pm, mat Sat 2.30pm

LONDON GALLERIES

Leighton House: The Leighton Open: The Kensington and Chelsea Artists' Exhibition (0171-602 3316)
Llewellyn Alexander: Not the Royal Academy 1996 (0171-620 1322)
Lisson Gallery: Victor Burgin, Dan Graham, Rodney Graham, John Hilliard (0171-724 2739) **National Gallery:** Degas (0171-747 2885) **National Portrait Gallery:** Literary Photographs by Mark Gerson (0171-306 0055) . . **Redfern Gallery:** Summer Exhibition (0171-734 1732) **Tate:** New Displays (0171-887 8000) . . . **V & A:** The Leighton Frescoes (0171-938 8500)
Whitechapel: Open (0171-522 7888)

THEATRE GUIDE

Jeremy Kingston's assessment of theatre showing in London

■ House full, returns only
◩ Some seats available
☐ Seats at all prices

◩ **BY JEEVES:** Delightful musical creation by Alan Ayckbourn and Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on the Wodehouse heroes, first attempted 20 years ago, now entirely revised.
Duke of York's, St Martin's Lane, W1 (0171-836 5122). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm, mats Wed and Sat, 3pm ♿

☐ **THE DECAMERON:** A selection from Boccaccio's treasure-house of erotic tales, some happy, some bloody, nicely acted by Nick Ward's young cast.
Gate, 11 Pembridge Road, W11 (0171-229 0706). Mon-Sat, 7.30pm. Until August 17.

☐ **EMMA:** Last of Jane Austen's six novels to be dramatised for stage, cinema or television in the past 12 months. Michael Fry's adaptation adds the artful framework of a bossy girl who stages a play about the bossy heroine.
King's Head, Upper Street, N1 (0171-226 1916). Tue-Sat, 8pm; mats Sat and Sun, 3.30pm. Until August 11

◩ **AN INSPECTOR CALLS:** Stephen Daldry's powerful production, with David Ross as the all-knowing Inspector, and Edward Peel and Estelle Kohler as the pillars of society.
Garrick, Charing Cross Road, WC2 (0171-494 5085). Mon-Fri, 7.45pm; Sat, 8.15pm; mats Wed, 2.30pm, Sat, 5pm

■ **JOHN GABRIEL BORKMAN:** Paul Scofield, Vanessa Redgrave, Eileen Atkins and Michael Bryant, directed by Richard Eyre. A mighty cast for Ibsen's penultimate play, concerned with guilt, remorse and reconciliation.
National Theatre (Lyttelton), South Bank, SE1 (0171-928 2252). Tonight and tomorrow, 7.30pm; mat Thurs, 2.15pm. In rep ♿

☐ **MARTIN GUERRE:** The latest Boublil and Schonberg musical, set to follow the success of *Les Mis* and *Miss Sai*. Declan Donnellan directs a cast led by Iain Glen and Juliette Caton.
Prince Edward, Old Compton St, W1 (0171-447 5400). Mon-Sat, 7.45pm; mats Thurs and Sat, 3pm

☐ **THE ODD COUPLE:** Jack Klugman, Tony Randall play the two divorced husbands, slob and fusspot, in a revival of Neil Simon's comedy.
Theatre Royal, Haymarket, SW1 (0171-930 8800). Mon-Fri, 8pm, Sat 8.15pm, mats Thurs, 3pm and Sat, 5pm ♿

☐ **THE PAINTER OF DISHONOUR:** Calderon exposes a grim society shackled by the demands of honour. Sara Mair-Thomas and John Carlisle in good voice but the issues seem remote.
Pit, Barbican, Silk Street EC2 (0171-638 8891). Tonight, 7.15pm; mat, 2pm. In rep. ♿

☐ **THIS LIME TREE BOWER:** Clumsy seduction and a shambolic crime feature in award-winning Conor McPherson's new play, set in an Irish seaside town.
Bush, Shepherds Bush Green, W12 (0181-743 3388). Mon-Sat, 8pm

☐ **3Ms BEHAVING:** The 3 singers from *Ain't Misbehavin'* — Debby Bishop, Dawn Hope, Melanie E. Marshall — in a programme of rave jazz and blues.
Tricycle, 269 Kilburn High Road, NW6 (0171-328 1000). Now previewing, Tue-Sat (not Aug 9), 10pm, from Aug 12, 8pm. Opens Aug 14, 7pm

☐ **TWO BOYS IN A BED ON A COLD WINTER'S NIGHT:** James Edward Barker's play about the dynamics of the one-night stand: honest and sexy.
Arts, Great Newport St, WC2 (0171-836 3334). Mon-Thurs, 8pm, Fri and Sat, 7pm and 9pm. Until September 7

☐ **THE YELLOW WALLPAPER:** Patricia Boyer and Tobias Burns in a stage adaptation of this remarkable 1890 novel by Charlotte Perkins Gilman, tracing a wife's journey into madness. Directed by Judith Roberts.
New End, 27 New End, Hampstead, NW3 (0171-794 0022). Tue-Sat, 8pm, mat Sun, 4pm. Until August 11

LONG RUNNERS

☐ **Blood Brothers**: Phoenix (0171-369 1733) . . ☐ ***Don't Dress for Dinner***: Duchess (0171-494 5070) . . ◩ **Grease**: Dominion (0171-416 6060) ☐ **Jolson**: Victoria Palace (0171-834 1317) . . ☐ **The Mousetrap**: St Martin's (0171-836 1443) ☐ **Oliver!**: Palladium (0171-494 5020) ■ **The Phantom of the Opera**: Her Majesty's (0171-494 5400) ☐ **Starlight Express**: Apollo Victoria (0171-416 6054) ◩ **Sunset Boulevard**: Adelphi (0171-344 0055) ☐ **The Woman in Black**: Fortune (0171-836 2238)

Ticket information supplied by Society of London Theatre

CINEMA GUIDE

Geoff Brown's assessment of films in London and (where indicated with the symbol ◆) on release across the country

NEW RELEASES

BLOOD SIMPLE (18): Welcome revival of the Coen brothers' debut feature, made in 1983; a film noir homage made with cold-blooded verve. With John Getz and Frances McDormand.
Gate (0171-727 4043) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen on the Hill** (0171-435 3366) **Virgin Haymarket** (0171-839 1527)

◆ **FLIPPER** (PG): A surly teenager unbends with a dolphin. Unimaginative family film, with Elijah Wood and Paul Hogan. Director, Alan Shapiro.
Odeon Swiss Cottage (01426 914 098) **Plaza** (0990 888990) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888 990) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

◆ **JAMES AND THE GIANT PEACH** (U): Mistreated James finds his feet in a peach voyaging across the Atlantic. Excellent animated version of Roald Dahl's book. Director, Henry Selick.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **Gate** (0171-727 4043) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426-914 666) **Swiss Cottage** (0171-586 3057) **West End** (01426-915 574) **Phoenix** (0181-883 2233) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **UCI Whiteleys** (0171-792 3332) **Virgin Chelsea** (0171-352 5096)

LA REGLE DU JEU (PG): New print of Renoir's 1939 masterpiece, a wonderful portrait of French society. With Marcel Dalio and Nora Gregor.
Riverside Studios (0181-748 3354)

CURRENT

DENISE CALLS UP (15): Lightweight, appealing lifestyle comedy from new American director Hal Salwen. With Alanna Ubach and Dan Gunther.
Chelsea (0171-351 3742) **Renoir** (0171-837 8402)

◆ **EXECUTIVE DECISION** (15): Good, silly fun on a hijacked airliner, with Kurt Russell, Halle Berry, and a consignment of nerve gas. Produced by Joel Silver.
Warner (0171-437 4343)

FARGO (18): A kidnapping goes haywire in the Midwest. Wonderful, humane crime thriller from Joel and Ethan Coen, with Frances McDormand.
ABC Panton Street (0171-930 0631) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Baker Street** (0171-935 2772) **Virgin Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** (0171-437 4343)

◆ **THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME** (U): Victor Hugo meets the Disney animators. A perverse, and perversely successful, mix of the cuddly and downbeat. Directors, Gary Trousdale and Kirk Wise.
Clapham Picture House (0171-498 3323) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Leicester Square** (01426-915 683) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914 098) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636) **Warner** ♿ (0171-437 4343)

HUSTLER WHITE (18): Unappealing adventures of male hustlers on Santa Monica Boulevard. Directors, Bruce LaBruce and Rick Castro.
ICA Cinema (0171-930 3647)

◆ **MISSION: IMPOSSIBLE** (PG): Rousing set-pieces dwarf the stars, even Tom Cruise's special agent, in this enjoyable revival of the television series. With Jon Voight and Emmanuelle Béart.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Empire** (0990 888 990) **MGM Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Marble Arch** (01426 914501) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ♿ (0990 888 990) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888 990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

◆ **TWISTER** (PG): Cardboard characters chase tornadoes. Great special effects, but repetition softens the impact. With Helen Hunt and Bill Paxton. Director, Jan De Bont.
ABC Tottenham Court Road (0171-636 6148) **Barbican** ♿ (0171-638 8891) **Clapham Picture House** (0171-498 3323) **Empire** (0990 888990) **MGMs: Baker Street** (0171-935 9772) **Trocadero** ♿ (0171-434 0031) **Notting Hill Coronet** ♿ (0171-727 6705) **Odeons: Kensington** (01426 914666) **Swiss Cottage** (01426 914098) **Plaza** ♿ (0990 888990) **Rio** (0171-254 6677) **Ritzy** (0171-737 2121) **Screen/Green** (0171-226 3520) **UCI Whiteleys** ♿ (0990 888990) **Virgins: Chelsea** (0171-352 5096) **Fulham Road** (0171-370 2636)

Second round fires a blank

NEW ON VIDEO

Guitars and gunplay: Antonio Banderas in *Desperado*, Robert Rodriguez's remake of his own *El Mariachi*

■ DESPERADO
Columbia TriStar, PG, 1995

AS A reward for his shoestring *El Mariachi*, Robert Rodriguez got to remake it, more or less, with Columbia's millions and a fast-rising star, Antonio Banderas. The balladeer with a guitar case full of guns tangles with drug barons and shoots right, left and centre. But the capering looks less attractive in plush surroundings, and cheeky black humour is replaced by chic bloodshed. Available to rent.

■ THE CELLULOID CLOSET
Electric, 15, 1995

SPEEDY video release for this documentary survey of Hollywood's treatment of homosexuals down the century. Clips come mixed with interviews (from Whoopi Goldberg to Gore Vidal). Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman's film may not survive the rigorous scrutiny of gay activists. But it is hard not to be entertained, and at times appalled, by the presentation of gays as lisping cissies or suicide fodder, or the means adopted to slip in gay glances when Hollywood was not looking.

■ COLD FEVER
Electric, 15, 1994

"HOW do you like Iceland?" someone asks the hero, a polite Japanese come to perform a memorial rite for his parents. He finds it very strange. Fridrik Thór Fridriksson's lovely film pursues his snowbound adventures with friendly eccentrics, unfriendly hitchhikers and the national drink, Brennivin. If the spirit of Jim Jarmusch hangs in the air, it is because the producer and instigator is Jarmusch collaborator Jim Stark. But it takes an Icelandic director to find such beauty in the bleak landscapes and to treat the country's quirks with impish affection.

■ CLOCKERS
CIC, 15, 1995

BROOKLYN kids get sucked into a spiral of drugs and crime as Harvey Keitel's homicide cop breathes down their necks. A far better movie lurks inside Spike Lee's heavy-handed version of Richard Price's novel. You catch glimpses when cops handle a corpse like a butcher mauling a chicken, or peer pressure mounts among the kids. Then Lee mounts his soapbox or jolts our arm with some crude visual trick. A frustrating experience, available to rent.

■ ROPE
CIC, PG, 1948

HITCHCOCK'S experiments with ten-minute takes significantly increase the theatrical air of this fascinating version of Patrick Hamilton's play. Two young men (John Dall, Farley Granger) kill a childhood friend for kicks and then test their mettle by socialising with friends and family while the corpse lies hidden in their apartment. Hamilton's inspiration was the Leopold-Loeb murder case (later the spark for *Swoon*); but the teasing sadism, amorality and sexual ambiguity come from Hitchcock alone.

GEOFF BROWN

NEW CLASSICAL CDs: Pictures of Iceland; incandescent Argerich; Domingo's robust Quixote

CHAMBER

Hilary Finch

■ HALLGRIMSSON
String Quartets, etc
Kreutzer Quartet
Eye of the Storm
EOS 5004★★★

UNTIL recently, Haflidi Hallgrimsson, the Icelandic composer now living in Edinburgh whose collaboration with the painter Craigie Aitchison in *Crucifixion* led to a particularly successful Scottish Chamber Orchestra commission earlier this year, has been too little known on disc. Now a double album of his chamber music from the Kreutzer Quartet makes up for lost time.

It also breaks new ground in offering two different performances, by the same players, of two of Hallgrimsson's pieces for string quartet. In spotting the differences, the listener's understanding of the work is enhanced. And Hallgrimsson's music repays such close attention: his music is written in painterly detail, with precise densities of texture and placings of line.

The cello, Hallgrimsson's own instrument, leads in slow, shamanic chant, in *Four Movements for String Quartet* of 1990-91. The players then progress very much as four soloists, searching out often unpredictable expressive extremes in what is essentially contemplative, lyrical music. The more conventionally structured String Quartet No 1 from 1989 is no less challenging both to listen to and to play. And the discs also offer (single) performances of *Solitaire*, five early monologues for solo cello; and *Offerto* for solo violin (1991), four literally graphic movements, dedicated to the memory of one of Iceland's leading abstract artists, Karl Kvaran.

ORCHESTRAL

Barry Millington

■ TCHAIKOVSKY
Piano Concerto No 1/ Nutcracker Suite
Argerich/Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra/ Abbado
DG 449 816-2★★★

IT WAS only a year ago that another live performance of Tchaikovsky's Piano Concerto No 1 in B Flat Minor by Martha Argerich (recorded with Kirill Kondrashin in the early 1980s) was released by Philips. Now DG is issuing an account taped in the Philharmonic, Berlin, in December 1994 with Claudio Abbado conducting (it already has a studio version from Argerich and Dutoit in the catalogue).

Argerich is such an electrifying, mercurial performing artist — and one prepared to live dangerously — that this proliferation of readings can easily be justified. She may take risks — as in the vertiginously cascading double octave passage in the first movement — but her supreme technique sees her through. Abbado's secure but spontaneous accompaniment complements Argerich's incandescence ideally.

Another unique feature of this release is the coupling: a brilliant arrangement by Nicolas Economou of *The Nutcracker Suite* for two pianos. Economou is the second pianist and he matches Argerich for virtuosity in the March and Trepak, for delicacy in the *Dance of the Sugar Plum Fairy* and for abandoned lyricism in the *Waltz of the Flowers*.

MUSICALS

John Higgins

■ LEIGH
Man of La Mancha
Migenes/Domingo/Hadley/ Patinkin/Ramey/American Theatre Orchestra/ Gemignani
Sony SK 46436★

ONE OF the aims of this recording, resting in Sony's archives since 1990, was presumably to give Placido Domingo a chance to sing the show's hit song, *The Impossible Dream*. This he duly does with all the fervour he would give to one of Andrea Chenier's visionary outbursts. The Spanish accent, suitably thickened, does well for the spoken role of Cervantes himself, who gets the whole thing going. But it is difficult to imagine Domingo, most robust and healthy of tenors, as the skeletal Don Quixote, man of La Mancha.

Julia Migenes, Domingo's partner in the screen *Carmen*, has more character as that other Spanish slut, Aldonza. Migenes is fine reminding Quixote she was born on a dung heap, less effective when assuming the sweeter tones of "Dulcinea".

Sony packs the smaller roles with some starry names, much in the way DG did when recording *Candide* and *West Side Story*. The only snag is that Mitch Leigh is no Leonard Bernstein and the score, despite the prizes heaped on it in 1965, now sounds thin. Samuel Ramey is wasted as the innkeeper: Rosalind Elias is way past her best as the housekeeper: Mandy Patinkin's Sancho is straight out of the Bronx: and Robert White turns the Barber into an Irish leprechaun. Two Domingo sons, Placido Jr and Alvaro, come on for a speciality number, *Little Bird*, more calypso than bolero.

Connoisseurs of kitsch will probably latch onto the issue. Others may wonder whether it was really worth all the trouble.

★ *Worth hearing*
★★ *Worth considering*
★★★ *Worth buying*

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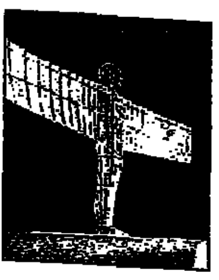


■ **AWARDS**

The tallest sculpture in Britain, Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North*, wins a top prize — before it's even built

■ **THEATRE**

In Chichester, Harriet Walter gets little help from her supporting actors in a new staging of *Hedda Gabler*

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ **PROM**

Peter Maxwell Davies conducts the first London performance of his Nordic-flavoured Sixth Symphony

■ **RADIO**

Panic over John Birt's plans for the BBC World Service: are reports of its death exaggerated?

Prizes for art projects to regenerate urban areas are awarded today. **Daniel Rosenthal** reports

Angel on the hard shoulder

Antony Gormley's 65ft high by 169ft wide *Angel of the North* stands head and wings above the five other arts ventures which today receive £5,000 prizes in the annual British Gas Properties Working for Cities Awards. The tallest sculpture in Britain, it is also the most controversial of the six victorious projects. And it has not even been built yet.

Working for Cities, run in association with the Arts Councils of England, Wales and Scotland, and now in its sixth year, exists to celebrate the arts-driven regeneration of urban environments.

The regenerative powers of the Turner Prize-winning sculptor's *Angel* cannot be assessed until July next year, by which time the giant steel figure should have risen up on a disused colliery beside the A1, on the southern outskirts of Gateshead, from where it will watch over some 90,000 motorists a day.

The seven judges, including Sir Bob Scott, chief executive of the Greenwich Millennium Trust, deemed the statue the "most exciting and original" urban project in development. But in some quarters Gormley and the Gateshead councillors who commissioned *Angel* would have won a prize acknowledging art's ability to divide, rather than unite, a community.

Liberal Democrat councillors on Gateshead's Labour-run authority launched a vociferous Stop the Statue campaign last year. *Angel* would be a hazardous distraction to drivers, some said. A performing-arts centre could bring greater benefits.

Alerted to an apparent resemblance between *Angel* and an Albert Speer statue erected by the Luftwaffe outside Berlin in 1935, the *Gateshead Post* ran front-page photographs of Speer's and Gormley's designs, beneath the headline "Nazi . . . but nice?".

National recognition for *Angel*, whose estimated £800,000 construction cost will be funded largely through a National Lottery grant, will probably revive the acrimony.

Not surprisingly, Sir Bob Scott says Gormley's work sparked a passionate debate among the judges: "One person hated it and was adamant it shouldn't win. But the majority wanted to applaud the bravery and imagination behind a project which will come to be admired and respected."

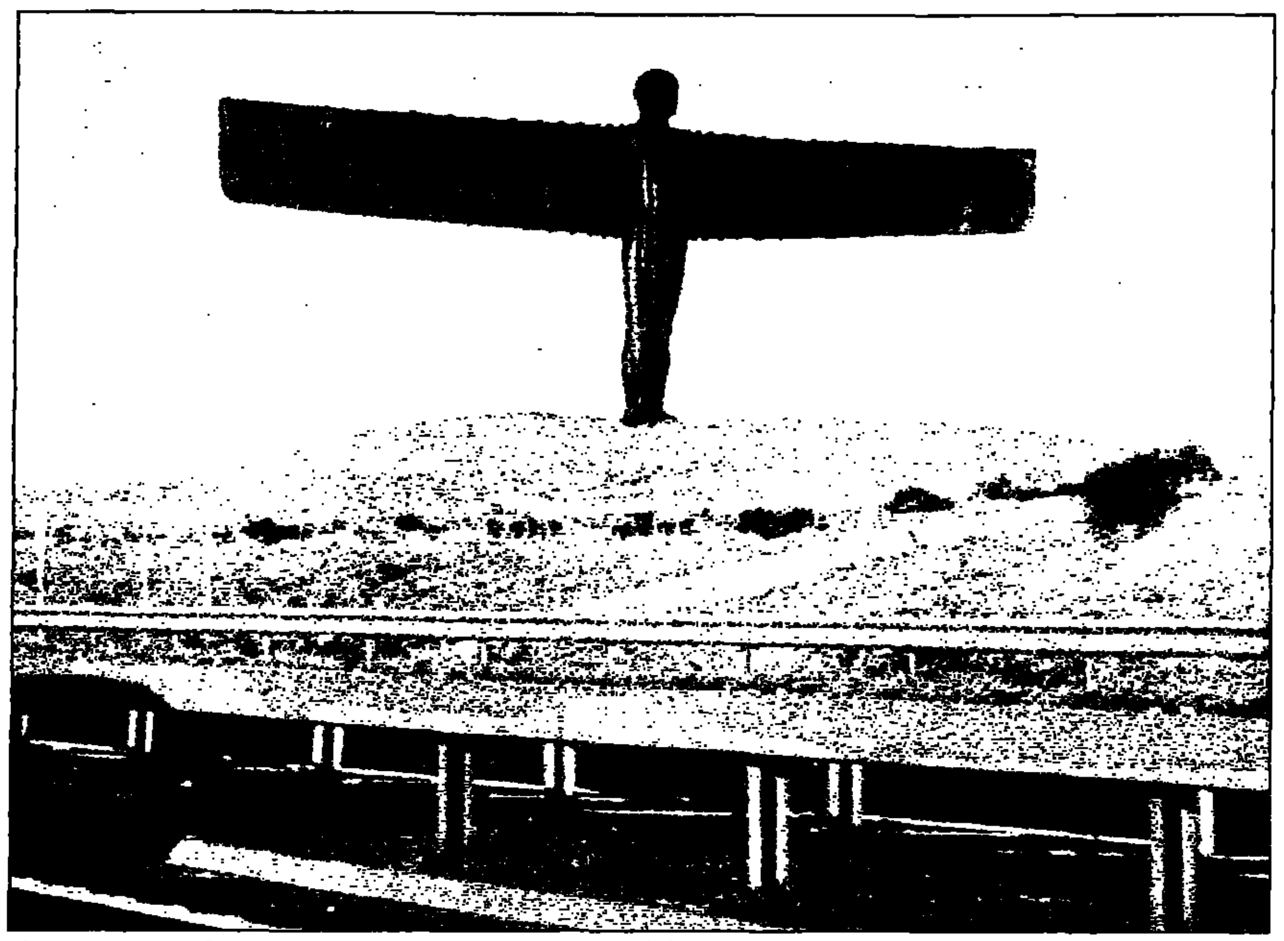
> ‘One judge was adamant that it shouldn't win’

Sid Henderson, chairman of Gateshead council's arts committee, said: "*Angel* will strengthen Gateshead's unique visual identity at a time when our towns are taking on a more and more standardised appearance."

Those who feel the worth of artistic initiatives should be gauged by the number of people they involve will cheer the Community Arts award for Cardiff's the Pioneers.

Founded by Nick Clements in 1981, the group has enlisted more than 30,000 Cardiff residents, representing about 20 nationalities, to design, build and maintain mosaics and murals which brighten dozens of sites, from a pedestrian underpass to a Sikh Temple.

Much of their work is with teenagers facing bleak employment prospects. "We use art to give young people the spark of creativity that can increase self-esteem," Clements said. "I'm not suggesting every school-leaver becomes an artist, but a 16-year-old who has hands-on involvement in art will make a better mechanic or plumber."



Someone to watch over them: Antony Gormley's *Angel of the North* "will strengthen Gateshead's visual identity"

Clements and co-director Sarah Osborne will use their prize to fund a link-up with Methodist ministers on Cardiff's troubled Ely housing estate, their joint aim "to convey the urgently needed message of good parenting to mothers and fathers so young that they are still children themselves".

The Spitalfields Festival, in East London, was judged Best Festival. More than 2,000 schoolchildren and adults from Tower Hamlets take part each year in educational and community work centred around the eclectic three-week summer music programme at Christ Church Spitalfields.

Michael Berkeley, who with fellow composers Judith Weir and Anthony Payne became the event's joint artistic director last year, said: "We feel there's no point in Spitalfields being just another London music festival. It has to achieve something germane to its community." Part of that relevance translates into free concert admission for people from a deprived area who, says Berkeley, would otherwise not be exposed to "the humanising influence of music".

London can also celebrate the Public Art award for *A Light in Docklands*, the £120,000 show which illuminated buildings along the Docklands Light Railway last Christmas.

The Arts Centre award goes to the £4.5 million Sunderland City Library and Arts Centre, which has attracted more than one and a half million visitors since opening in January 1995.

Batley's Public Art programme won its award for "*imaginative arts-led regeneration of a site or space*". Landmarks, stained glass and other works have been produced in conjunction with local people in the North Kirklees town to counter low morale caused by the decline of the area's textile industries.

Sir Bob Scott and the other judges were looking for community projects which, through very different methods, would all have a lasting local impact — the key goal for those seeking victory in the regeneration game.

Revolution that wasn't

RADIO: The hoo-ha about World Service reforms misses the mark, **Peter Barnard** says

When John Birt's restructuring of the BBC was announced in June, I was underwhelmed. I was especially underwhelmed when obituaries began appearing in other newspapers for the BBC World Service: reports of its death seemed to me to be exaggerated.

The June panic was caused by the announcement that the World Service would in future come under the umbrella of BBC News, with its programmes commissioned from that great amorphous mass and more or less imposed on the World Service itself.

In spite of manic baying by various former luminaries of the WS, I felt it advisable to remain calm. I know a thing or two about the structure of large organisations: after pulling down one edifice, they tend to replace it with one of a very similar appearance.

Thus it was that on July 16 a news release was issued which received very little exposure at the time. It announced that news programmes for the World Service would, in the brave new world, be made by "a dedicated news team". Programmes for the WS would "remain the responsibility of an integrated unit".

This was not exactly backtracking, it was an exposition (by Tony Hall, the chief executive of BBC News) of what the Birt revolution actually meant. As I suspected, there was less to this revolution than met the eye.

But by then the panic had acquired momentum. The Government and one of its associated select committees summoned the BBC to Whitehall and Westminster to explain itself.

The Foreign Office, piqued at Birt's failure to consult them in advance, let it be known that the World Service was something akin to a sacred trust. Dammit, Birt, spat the FO, do we not fund the blessed thing?

At this point I wondered if this could by any chance be the same Foreign Office that had announced, last November, a cut of £5.4 million in the World Service budget for this year. And not just this year, for this Foreign Office also announced that the WS budget for 1997-98 would be cut by a further £8.6 million.

Which brings us to this week's strong hint from Jeremy Hanley, the junior Foreign Office minister, that the Government wants WS reform plans shelved pending a review of how the service's "special nature" could be retained.

After the briefest period of head-scratching, I have concluded that one way of retaining this special nature would be to restore funding, so that the BBC did not have to "look for efficiency savings", as it announced in response to the funding cut. These savings include putting the World Service under the umbrella of BBC News, to the consternation of the, er, Foreign Office. How interesting that, just when we might have been ranting at the Foreign Office for cutting BBC funds, the FO invites us to rant at the BBC for cutting expenditure. What can it all mean?

Two Heddas better than one

THEATRE

Hedda Gabler
Minerva, Chichester

Believe it or not, the last week has thrown up two stagings of this play at high-toned addresses, one at the Donmar in WC2, the other in West Sussex. And which is the winner in what a racing man might call the Great *Gabler* Stakes? Well, Stephen Unwin's revival for the English Touring Company crosses the line two or three lengths ahead of the production Lindy Davies has now mounted in Chichester. But where is the more effective heroine to be found? That is a much closer-run affair. After a photo-finish, this steward believes that Harriet Walter at the Minerva has beaten Alexandra Gilbreath in London; but only by a short Hedda.

It is easy to see why the role continues to attract fine actresses. After all, there are many different ways of playing the mixture of frustrated intelligence and warped, distorted emotion that is Ibsen's Hedda. For Fiona Shaw recently, she was a cornered animal in the last stages of a nervous breakdown precipitated by half a year's honeymoon with that epitome of the second-rate, her husband Tesman. For Gilbreath at the Donmar, she was almost the opposite. To watch this innately aloof woman wincing in dismay from the clods around her was to feel oneself touched by ice, not fire.

DONALD COOPER

Harriet Walter "exudes a powerful, seductive charm"

Walter is nearer to Gilbreath than to Shaw, and more complete than either. Never for a moment does she forget that she is General Gabler's aristocratic daughter. She looks magnificent whether she is in dressing-gown or evening dress, and she exudes pride and, when she wants, a powerful, seductive charm. But you cannot miss the tension within. She obsessively paces the stage, as if Isabella Bywater's Scandinavian living room was an adjunct to the tiger house in Oslo zoo, and she does subtle things with her face and hands: a bunching of the fists here, a feral twist of the lips there, a small, sadistic smile when she pretends to think that the new hat belonging to Tesman's aunt is actually the maid's ratty old bonnet.

Walter catches several of Hedda's contradictions: her high-handed contempt for bourgeois convention and her genteel terror of being seen to flout it; her wry humour and her sense of horror. This last she directs mainly at the pregnancy she keeps secret for most of the play, striking helplessly at her growing belly and, once, displaying symptoms that have more to do with retching self-disgust than morning sickness. No wonder she puts a lot into the scene in which she destroys the manuscript that her rival, Thea, has helped her old admirer, Lovberg, to compose. As she says, she is burning a baby.

But nowhere does she get much help from her supporting actors. There is little depth in her bond with Lovberg, played by David Threlfall with Strindbergian hair but a subdued, abstracted air, and no excitement in her relationship with her latest wooer, Peter Blythe's bloodless Judge Brack. Nicholas Le Prevost makes some impression as a diffident, flustered yet not contemptible Tesman, but the production as a whole lacks the pace, narrative clarity and sheer thoughtfulness of its Covent Garden counterpart.

Benedict Nightingale

Sparking a blaze of northern lights

BBC PROMS

RPO/Davies
Albert Hall/Radio 3

IF THE Orkney-based Peter Maxwell Davies counts as a Nordic composer, and with a little geographical licence he might, then his Prom with the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra was an all-Nordic affair. The centrepiece was his new Sixth Symphony, receiving its first London performance: as much as any of Maxwell Davies's music this exudes a Nordic spirit, one that was reinforced by the Sibelius and Nielsen works which shared the programme on Tuesday.

Certainly the Sixth shows a very Northern preoccupation with textures, darkness and light. Sunless, surging passages contrast with moments of shimmering incandescence. Even when the large orchestra is used sparingly, the blocks of sound are mostly thick, though there are some bare-boned Shostakovich-like intrusions. Percussion is used prominently in the explosive outbursts in the central Adagio. Most striking of all is the strings-only threnody that opens the finale, the slowest of the three movements in a work whose basic pulse is slow. In spite of its length (50 minutes) it is a tightly organised score, full of challenges which the RPO met confidently.

The other big work of the evening was Sibelius's Violin Concerto, with Tasmin Little the radiant soloist. She played with expressive freedom, lingering over the opening, working up impassioned momentum later. She made the Adagio a sustained outpouring of great lyricism, and elsewhere darkened her silvery tone for dramatic effect. Though the finale came across with all the dancing virtuosity it demands, the first movement could have flowed better: the orchestral accompaniments around which the soloist splashes in all directions needed a tighter hand.

Lemminkäinen's Return, however, found Maxwell Davies on much more exciting form: he conducted a tense, bristling account of Sibelius's tone poem, and conjured up playing full of wild and primitive *Kalevala* spirit. And he brought a special awareness of light to Nielsen's *Helios* overture, the Danish composer's response to the harsh Aegean sun. String sound had luminosity, and though the orchestra's ensemble was not the last word in precision, the blazing spirit of the work shone through.

John Allison

AN EXCLUSIVE TIMES COMPETITION

Win flights to Jo'burg with Virgin

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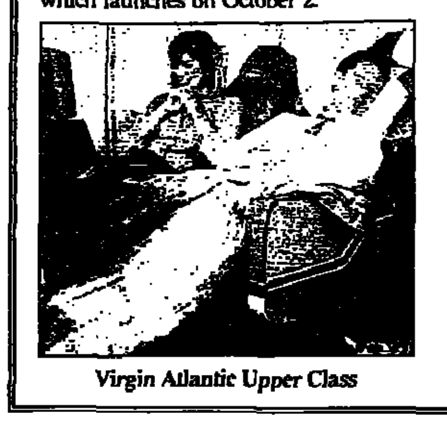
The Times, in association with Virgin Atlantic, gives you and a partner the chance to win return flights on Virgin's new daily service direct from London to Johannesburg, South Africa's largest city. We have 14 pairs of return tickets, worth more than £30,000, to give away to this new Virgin Atlantic destination, which launches on October 2.



Virgin Atlantic Upper Class

First prize is a pair of Virgin Atlantic Upper Class tickets, two nights at Sabi Sabi Private Game Reserve, one night at Lesedi, a multicultural village, and four nights at the Karos Indaba hotel, Johannesburg (above). All meals, except at the Karos Indaba, safaris and transfers are included.

Second prize is one of three pairs of tickets for travel in Premium Economy and a further ten runners-up will receive a pair of Economy tickets.

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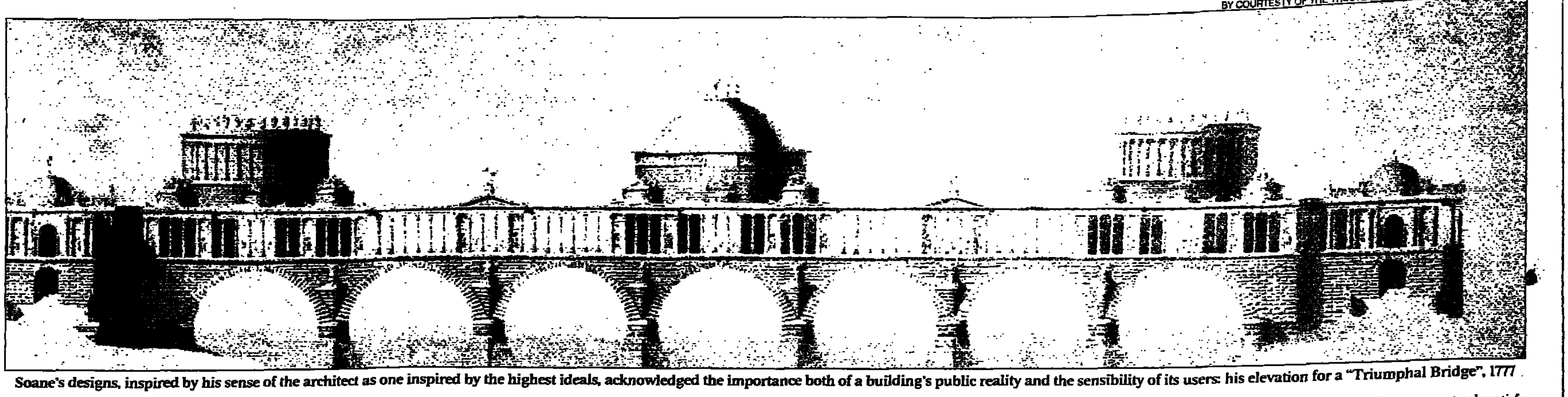
HOW TO ENTER

Attach four tokens from *The Times* to the competition entry form (to be published again tomorrow), tick the appropriate answer to the competition question printed on the form and complete the ten word tie-breaker saying why you would like to win a trip to Johannesburg. Post your entry to: *The Times*/Virgin Jo'burg Competition, Ashentree Court, London EC88 8NG. The closing date is August 22, 1996. Full terms and conditions appeared in Saturday's and Monday's editions of *The Times*.

THE TIMES
JO'BURG TOKEN 5
virgin atlantic

Roger Scruton admires the ideas of an architect whose devotion to Classical ideals brought him both fame and opprobrium in his day

BY COURTESY OF THE TRUSTEES OF SIR JOHN SOANE'S MUSEUM



Soane's designs, inspired by his sense of the architect as one inspired by the highest ideals, acknowledged the importance both of a building's public reality and the sensibility of its users: his elevation for a "Triumphal Bridge", 1777

Seeing the light and shade

SIR JOHN SOANE
Enlightenment Thought
and the Royal Academy
Lectures
By David Watkin
Cambridge University Press, £75
ISBN 0 521 44091 2

Sir John Soane (1753-1837) is known to all students of architecture, not only for his buildings, the greatest of which, the Bank of England, has been enlarged and mutilated beyond recognition — but also for the two houses in which he lived and which he filled with his priceless collection of ancient and modern art. Modernists like Pevsner singled out Soane as a precursor of the 20th-century radicals, an architect prepared to defy the Classical style, in order to produce forms and spaces more suited to the modern age. But Soane himself would have despised the modern movement, believing that experiments are artistically worthless unless conducted within a living tradition.

Soane made his mark in many ways. The mausoleum which he built for his wife in St Pancras' churchyard was adapted by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott to form the design of the original telephone booth — a design so manifestly superior to its wretched successors that Westminster City Council has decided to restore it. Soane was influential, too, as a collector and connoisseur. David Watkin's book draws our attention to another and neglected aspect of his work. In 1806 Soane was appointed to the Professorship of Architecture at the Royal Academy, a post which carried the obligation to deliver lectures to students. These lectures were offered in 1809 and again in 1815 and eventually published, after many revisions.

They form a remarkable statement of the principles of Classical architecture, illustrated with striking examples and a wealth of criticism. Soane's recently discovered papers show the extraordinary lengths to which he went in order to understand the art of building, and David Watkin has drawn on them to provide a striking portrait of the last Enlightenment thinker.

Watkin takes us on a pilgrimage through Soane's course of study, showing the contribution made to the understanding of architecture by 18th-century philosophy and the steadily increasing refinement of architectural theory at the hands of the French and Italian *literati* who were Soane's favourite reading. The son of a bricklayer, with little formal education, Soane was determined to live up to his own ideal of the architect as a man of superior wisdom, inspired by the highest ideals. He taught himself French, Italian and Latin, and filled his library with every available treatise on his own and neighbouring arts. He approached his intellectual task in the same spirit of humble self-improvement as he approached his work as an architect. And when he came to deliver the lectures, he was conscious that he had not only mastered the principles of Classical building, but was both entitled and qualified to criticise the work of his contemporaries — something for which he was severely censured by the Fellows of the Royal Academy.

The resulting quarrel was partly responsible for the bitter self-isolation which marred Soane's declining years. But no reader of the lectures can regret Soane's ardent desire not only to praise but also to blame where blame is due.

Soane's ruling idea is that architecture is a discipline, the principles of which had been discovered with great labour by the ancients and set forth in the system of Orders. As he rightly discerns, the Orders are not to be understood in terms of abstract geometry. They divide a building into meaningful parts, and bring those parts together in harmony. Their power derives from moulding and shadow, and the aspiring architect must learn his trade not by dreaming up abstract schemes, but by going out into the world and drawing what he sees — in particular by drawing the light as it falls across the surface of a building.

Good taste should be the architect's ideal as opposed to the "whim and caprice" which threaten to replace it. Good taste involves a respect for the public reality of a building, and for the fellow citizens who must live with it. From those simple but powerful premises Soane extracts an account of architecture that is far removed indeed from the practice of architects today. Yet how I wish that Colin St John Wilson, architect of the new British Library, had been brought up on this wise and philosophical thinker, and had learnt from him to respect the law of Ephesus, according to which the architect of a public project must not only satisfy the citizens that his designs are in accordance with good taste, but also meet from his own pocket the expense of exceeding the estimated cost of them.

David Watkin's intellectual biography is graceful, scholarly and rewarding. His efforts have been matched by Cambridge University Press, who have produced the most lavish book of architectural scholarship in many years. The size and weight of a family Bible, beautifully illustrated with plates that spell out the argument so clearly that only a Modernist could fail to grasp it, and provided with margins so generous that the text has the same visual beauty as the illustrations, this is a book that all who despise the St John Wilsons and Richard Rogerses of this world will treasure. And if, on encountering such a person, they should wish to make the supreme sacrifice and throw the volume at his head, there is little chance that he would survive the blow.

The glory of insubstantial pageantry

Michael Levey

THE MEDICI
WEDDING OF 1589
By James M. Saslow
Yale, £30
ISBN 0 300 06447 0

None of us attended the Medici wedding celebrations in Florence in 1589, but the cumulative effect of James Saslow's book is to make readers of it feel they did. And that is achieved by no vaguely colourful evocation or at the expense of scholarship. On the contrary. The pages bristle with scholarly references and are studded with minute, precise details, often the product of the author's research, some of which are unlikely to concern a general audience and are sensibly reserved for the catalogue section and the notes.

The wedding celebrations of 1589 were in a tradition of public festivity in Florence associated particularly with the Medici family's rise to prominence. They could be traced back to the opulent style with which the wedding of Lorenzo "the Magnificent" had been celebrated in the 15th-century republican city. By 1589 the Medici were established as reigning Grand Dukes of Tuscany, and Florence had witnessed a succession of grandiose ceremonies celebrating Medici births, deaths and marriages. The festivities of 1589 were intended to be the most sumptuous of all, with decorations in the streets and magnificent theatrical performances at court.

Inevitably, much of the spectacle has to be reconstructed from written sources, supplemented by engravings and drawings. Scholarship has frequently focused on this evidence, beginning a century ago with a brilliantly pioneering study by Warburg. Where Professor Saslow excels is in marshalling the material so that the reader enjoys a doubly privileged position: as spectator of the elaborate, unfolding series of events and as eavesdropper on the even more fascinating, frantic backstage activities and exchanges, which involved a host of artists, craftsmen, overseers and suppliers, all required to turn the complex project into accomplished fact.

The crises and displays of temperament exhibited in the recent television programmes on the Royal Opera House seem tame and contrived by comparison with the real panic and rising anger which began to infect some of the responsible individuals in Florence in the spring of 1589. Yet all went wonderfully well in the end — apart from the anyway uncontrollable weather. And one must marvel at the thoroughness of the organisation, extending down to the provision of toilet buckets for the workmen.

The bride and bridegroom met for the first time during the festivities. Theirs was a dynastic alliance exceptional not only in the lavish nature of its celebration but in its happy outcome. The bridegroom was the third Medici Grand Duke, Ferdinando I, whose earlier lot had not seemed to include exercise of secular power. Professor Saslow might have brought out the point more clearly, for until 1582 Cardinal Ferdinando (as he then was) had just been uncle to the Grand Ducal heir. More could also have been said about the bride, Christine of Lorraine. We are told of her influential maternal grandmother, Catherine des Médicis, Queen Mother of France, but not of her paternal one, after whom she was named, Christina of Denmark — the subject of Holbein's famous portrait in the National Gallery — who was still alive at the date of the wedding. The Grand Duchess Christine would assume a most untypical role for a woman in Florence, becoming regent for both her son and grandson, and would be the dedicatee of a significant essay by Galileo.

But the unsung central figure of the ceremonies in 1589 was an artist, as well as part-organiser and virtual stage-manager, Bernardo Buontalenti. He has remained sadly unfamiliar in England outside specialist circles, though he possessed far greater energy of invention than his predecessor, Vasari. He truly was, in Professor Saslow's words, a "creative polymath". All the same, he should not be credited *tout court*, as he is here, as architect of the Chapel of the Princes at San Lorenzo.

Erudition is constantly fused in Professor Saslow's text with intelligent speculation about the ordinary, human aspect of things. He is not afraid to remind us that however exquisite a Florentine auditorium might look on the occasion, its atmosphere in reality would have been "crowded, warm and smelly". Characteristically, he has noted the modern custom of bridal couples driving out to be photographed at the Medici village at Poggio a Caiano, where Christine, like previous Medici brides, rested before her entry into Florence.

This is a book about the arts in which people — and not merely those who are historically important — bulk with almost equal prominence. As readable as it is learned, it is patently addressed to people, and it deserves to be popular.

Sir Michael Levey's Florence: A Portrait *is published by Jonathan Cape*

BIBLIOTECA NAZIONALE CENTRALE, FLORENCE

No expense spared: Buontalenti's ink and watercolour costume design for a "Delphic couple" of wedding attendants

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Nigel West

SPIES WITHOUT
CLOAKS
By Amy Knight
Princeton University Press, £10.95
ISBN 0 691 02577 0

For the practitioners of the arcane arts it was reassuring to hear, in May of this year, that in a tit-for-tat expulsion so reminiscent of the Cold War, four Russian "diplomats" had been expelled from London as four British "spies" had been declared *personae non grata*.

It was quite like old times as the new Russian counter-intelligence service announced that a civil servant had been caught spying, and had made a confession implicating no fewer than nine Britons working at the British Embassy.

But now that we know so much about the Secret Intelligence Service, what do we know about the organisations that have replaced the bad old KGB?

Amy Knight's research reveals that not much has changed. The KGB's foreign intelligence service, then known as the First Chief Directorate, has made a seamless transition into Boris Yeltsin's new SVR. There has been some downsizing, but the headquarters at Yasnevo is staffed by the same professionals who had sought so unsuccessfully to undermine capitalism throughout the period of superpower confrontation.

But what about the FSK (Russia's federal counter-intelligence service), the mysterious department behind the arrest of SIS's mole, and the FSB (the federal security service), the overlapping security agency which demanded the expulsion of nine? Here Amy Knight excels, explaining the background to the appointment of Sergei Stepashin as the FSK's director, and the determination of General Mikhail Barsukov to restore the reputation of the FSB — tarnished by bungled intelligence reports of the Chechen resistance.

REUTERS

Barsukov: head of FSB

To understand the power struggles now under way in the intelligence establishment of the Kremlin, one must go back to the events of the August 1991 coup, the subject of countless official cover-ups. Everyone involved, including Mikhail Gorbachev, has produced contradictory accounts of what happened, and Amy Knight has undertaken an impressive analysis to strip away the mythology.

Her conclusions suggest that the version peddled in the West, and confirmed by various official investigations, is merely a self-serving fabrication intended to conceal the extent to which the Kremlin was implicated. Apart from two key figures who seem to have committed suicide, the putsch collapsed with minimal consequences. None of those who supposedly detained Gorbachev at his presidential dacha at Foros was ever disciplined, and the conspirators who were arrested in the immediate aftermath have all been freed.

But what of the parts played by others? Not a shot was fired as Gorbachev's 32-strong presidential guard surrendered to five men from the KGB's crack Alpha squad. No calls for help were made from the car telephones available, and why was Yevgeni Primakov allowed to leave Foros and fly to Moscow at the height of the coup? A seasoned KGB professional, Primakov was close to Gorbachev and acted as his foreign policy adviser. He was then appointed head of the SVR, and is now Boris Yeltsin's Foreign Minister.

Amy Knight's view is that the coup was no such thing, but rather an officially sponsored attempt to reimpose an authoritarian style of Communist rule, managed in a way that made the whole scheme deniable if the wheels came off. Once it became clear the KGB would be unable to seize power, it adopted the role of Gorbachev's saviour, and Yeltsin has acquiesced in the deception.

So: *plus ça change*. In January 1994 the FSK announced the arrest of a defence official on a charge of spying for Britain, and last year MI5 identified a Russian television journalist, Aleksandr Malikov, as an SVR agent and he was deported. For those employed by what has been called the second oldest profession, it is comforting to know that there is job security in at least one industry.

Nigel West is the European Editor of The World Intelligence Review

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A snip and a nip and little else

Harriet Paterson

THE VIRTUOSO
By Margriet de Moor
Picador, £12.99
ISBN 0 330 34115 4

THE castrated male is not one of my top fantasies, yet first there was the film about Farinelli and now this strangely similar book telling us that a castrato in your bed is really where it's at.

To increase the appeal, both book and film claim outstanding beauty for their male sopranos, defying history. I always thought that the castrato was essentially a divine voice inside the body of a plump capon, but the heroine of this book is obsessed by the wondrous physique of her opera singer lover.

The setting is Naples: rich southern European Baroque, with plenty of velvet ribbons at the throat and brocade *décolletage*. Of two children who have grown up in the same small village, the girl, Carlotta, marries a duke and the boy, Gasparo, is taken off for the fateful snip ("only one boy in four fails to survive"). They meet again in the city, when he has become a famous performer. He sings a lot, and yes, they make love a lot, and that's more or less it.

Dutch writer Margriet de Moor, here translated by Ima Rilke, indulges in 18th-century Neapolitan delights, offering a perfectly amoral cast who consume many lovers of both sexes. In a series of overheated interiors a torrid atmosphere reigns, husbands gossiping about their new boyfriends with their own wives. The surroundings are a succession of cosy boxes at the opera and scented boudoirs: in this city of spectacular views, there is scarcely a vista to be found. The author focuses not at all on plot, but instead on the immediate experience of the sensations of sex and music. The book is seen through Carlotta's eyes, but her feelings never develop in any real sense: she jumps straight into full-blown erotic infatuation and gets stuck there, in a kind of voluptuous stasis.

ALL THIS leaves us without much to grasp at, especially as the historical placing is impressionistic rather than factual. It is a pity de Moor says little about the famously rigorous training of the castrati, the results of which could be so extraordinary. Farinelli, greatest of them all, is said to have had a range spanning five octaves.

The Virtuoso is an exercise in linguistic prettiness and musical display which leaves out feeling and experience. Perhaps it is the gilded vacuity of Gasparo's life that is the most accurate historical element in this book — even Farinelli ended his career in a blaze of resplendent emptiness: employed by Philip V of Spain, he received an astronomical fee for performing his sole duty, to sing the same four songs to the King each night.

Strong but stale

Cynthia Ozick is one of those sainted few who, through no promotion of their own, have come to be known as a writer's writer. Granted, this moniker smacks of what A. S. Byatt calls "turkey-cocking" — think of a man's man, a soldier's soldier — but the appellation is not always as chauvanistic as it sounds. A writer's writer can be someone on the leading edge of experimentation (Gertrude Stein, James Joyce, Alasdair Gray), or — more often — someone who is equipped intellectually and strategically to hold the fort against all comers. Cynthia Ozick is one of those — a fire ant of the mind, a worker bee who doubles as Valkyrie.

Portrait of the Artist as a Bad Character is Ozick's fourth collection of essays, and those familiar with her previous writing will discover no new corners here. Perhaps this is because, as a writer now in her sixties, Ozick published late. In the opening essay of this collection, Ozick tells of her frustration over remaining unpublished until her late twenties. As with everything she writes, she relates this tale of unfulfilled ambition with so much genuine humility that it sounds almost tender.

Ozick loves her work, that much is evident — but more than that, it seems she can't believe her own success. Once success finally found her, it came in a stroke, like knighthood. But by that time all her prejudices about literature were fully formed. Hers is not an intelligence shaped by publishing. She knew what she thought before she "arrived". The best writer's writers always do.

Marianne Wiggins

PORTRAIT OF THE ARTIST AS A BAD CHARACTER
And Other Essays on Writing
By Cynthia Ozick
Pimlico, £12.50
ISBN 0 7126 7484 5

But as much as those original opinions constitute her strength, they also reveal her weakness. Ozick is not a trigger-happy essayist — she's not easily aroused. Once she assesses that some wrong needs righting, she takes up her pen on subjects ranging from the Old Testament's Book of Ruth to the nuances between a Bronx and a Brooklyn accent. But her old themes, those formative threnodies, orchestrate everything she writes, and there comes a point, regretfully, when every theme and variation has been played, and we have heard it all before.

This is not to say that Ozick doesn't go at all her subjects with anything less energetic than a scherzo tempo — but her oldies are more mouldy now than golden. Her heroes — Henry James, Emerson, Isaac Babel — have featured in her essays for 20 years, and although their contributions to the canon of literature are historically established, Ozick rolls them out for every new parade. *Enough*, already, the reader wants to plead, with the Henry James. Bring on anyone but Henry. *Jesse* James. Or Clive. Or Etta.

Of the 22 essays herein assembled, some simply never leave the ground. Like Howard Hughes's massive aeronautic folly, the Spruce Goose, Ozick's less successful essays are wonderful constructions made of material that is, fatally, essentially wooden.

It may be unpardonable to blame a writer (even a writer's writer) for choosing her material less than perfectly, but Ozick is one writer from whom we, as hungerers after lucid, generous, soul-sustaining thought, demand — and usually receive — the best.

Five of the essays here — among them *Literature and the Politics of Sex*, *Ruth* and *Innovation and Redemption: What Literature Means* — are incomparable exercises in the magic and healing properties of great literature. If you have ever dreamt of writing — or, for that matter, of any form of consummate self-expression — you will want to keep these near you to safeguard your optimism through the dark nights.

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Echoing sea of blissful sound

The composer's second wife, Cosima, and their daughter Eva

Bernard Levin on the genius of a composer whose unique music defies criticism and sings for itself

Ah! Another book about Wagner! How delightful! How splendid! How eagerly I rush to its pages! How I dance for joy when I put the (approximately) seventeen-thousandth book about him on to my creaking shelves!

And you tell me, do you, that this one is not confined to the major works — it includes *Die Feen*, *Das Liebesverbot* and *Rienzi*, which nobody produces, not even at Bayreuth. Marvellous, marvellous! And there are all of 225 pages in this one, you say? Well, well! James, kindly pass the cyanide, and pass it quickly.

Now then. It is well known that I, Bernard Levin, passionately love the music of Richard Wagner. But so do millions upon millions more. Silly people play a silly game of "If you had to choose Mozart or Wagner, which would you choose?", and I would of course choose Mozart. (And though Beethoven wrote only one opera, that one still must take the blue riband even when *Die Meistersinger* is in one scale and *Fidelio* in the other).

Happily, we can have the lot, so what is all the fuss about? It is this: Wagner's music is profoundly different from any other's; Wagner was truly *sui generis*. Take one only minor item in what could be a hundred. Wagner's music never stops; the music flows without any break. That in itself can hardly be called alarming, but the sounds Wagner makes are not to be heard from any other musician. The people who shudder at Wagner are feeling things that only Wagner could, and did, produce. And those who flee from Wagner are those who fear to see themselves too deep.

Very well. But there have been hundreds of books — I believe it is thousands — about Wagner. So why should yet another have been written now, this time by Michael Tanner, to add to the flood?

Mind, Mr Tanner is no shallow scribbler, just wearily repeating what has been scribbled again and again. He has done his homework thoroughly and deeply — when he quotes in German he is not showing off, and he always digs deep to get Fafner's gold. But what has he truly added to the understanding, the meaning, the glory, the stupendous genius of Richard Wagner — that we did not already know? On the fourth page of Mr Tanner's book, we encounter this passage:

"The fact that people would forgive Wagner his alleged megalomania, his genuine anti-Semitism, his (ludicrously exaggerated) womanising, his conversion from left revolutionary to right nationalist, and anything else known or suspected about him, if they didn't find something in his music-dramas, perhaps more specifically in his music . . . "

WAGNER
By Michael Tanner
HarperCollins, £15
ISBN 0 00 255532 8

But that was Mr Tanner dipping only a toe; we shall be up to the neck sooner or later. What about this bit of repetition? "The huge significance of Siegfried's awakening of Brünnhilde is indicated by the music to which she wakes up" — well, yes, but twice two make four, don't they?

And what about this: "The greatest and most fascinating contrast between *Tristan* and *Die Meistersinger*, is not that one is preoccupied with metaphysics, and the other unconcerned with it, but that Wagner moves from his patently doctrinal work to his most covertly instructive one." Er . . .

And this? "What, it seems to me, can more plausibly be alleged against Siegfried is not his negative characteristics, but his comparative lack of positive ones . . . But there is scant indication that he has much in the way of a sex-drive . . . " Er . . .

I hesitate to say that Mr Tanner has wasted his time entirely, for presumably he thinks that the effort he has shown was worth the struggle. Two and a half cheers, then, for him. But, alas, many Wagnerites will pick up Mr Tanner's book, but rather more will put it down. That is nothing to do with Mr Tanner's style (though I groaned rather frequently), but it is that Wagner said it all in his music, and therefore there is nothing more to say. And when there is nothing more to say, the best thing to do is to fall silent and listen to the music.

Why should Mr Tanner desperately sprinkle his pages with names: Adorno, Nietzsche, Schoenberg, Bach, Pfitzner, Keats, (Keats?), Mozart, Achilles, Homer, Schopenhauer, Gobineau, Palestrina and many, many more? Because of course he has nothing else to say: *Wagner has said it all.*

Listen. Listen! If you want to be transfixed by Wagner's genius (and I certainly do), stop thinking and just listen. He will tell you with his music everything you want to know about every note he wrote, and all we need is a text or a score — and now we have sur-titles we don't even need these. Richard Wagner knew what he was doing. And what he was doing was making sounds such as no man or woman has ever made before and never will again.

His genius will live forever; the feelings that he gives us are unique; those who have not yet met Richard Wagner will find themselves in a new world.

Come; I handled Mr Tanner rather roughly. I ask pardon, but all he needs to soothe his bruises is *the sound of the first bars of Das Rheingold*. Mr Tanner must know that Wagner was steeped in Shakespeare and gave him homage, so let us finish with Shakespeare himself: "Hark — the music!"

Gallant gents led by the nose

COURTESY OF THE BOSTON ATHENAEUM

A caricature of honour: Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederacy, flees from Union troops at the end of the American Civil War (Currier and Ives, 1865)

Ian McIntyre

HONOR AND SLAVERY
By Kenneth S. Greenberg
Princeton University Press, £19.95
ISBN 0 691 02734 X

Kenneth Greenberg's aim is to enlarge our understanding of a dead world. He does so by attempting to reconstruct and interpret the dead language of those who ruled it. The language? English. The world? The antebellum slave South. Greenberg contends that the "honorable gentlemen" who were its masters spoke a language "as alien to a modern English speaker as any more conventional foreign tongue". Without a translation, we cannot hope to understand the nature of slavery, or the Civil War, or the Southern mind.

"The search for meaning in the language of honor has led me to ask numerous questions rarely posed by other students of the South," Professor Greenberg writes. "Why did Southerners dissect Nat Turner's body? Why did Southern gentlemen not invent and play baseball?" He acknowledges that the reconstruction of a language is a messy business — "as is suggested," he adds disarmingly, "by the sprawling subtitle of this volume". As subtitles go, it is certainly on the long side: "Lies, Duels, Noses, Masks, Dressing as a Woman, Gifts, Strangers, Humanitarianism, Death, Slave Rebellions, the Proslavery Argument, Baseball, Hunting and Gambling in the Old South."

He starts with noses. "Sometimes, white men of the antebellum South pulled, or tweaked, one another's noses. Slaves never pulled anyone's nose; neither did white women." In order to understand this meaningful gesture, he tells us, "it is necessary to explore the attitudes of men of honor towards lying, science, market activities, slaves, and much more." In the course of this analysis, we learn why P. T. Barnum was less popular in the South than in the North, why some of the good people of Charleston, South Carolina, got so worked up over the exhibition of the Feejee Mermaid in 1843 and why it was "that the nose was more important than the genitals to Southern gentlemen".

Greenberg is, in fact, using "language" in a somewhat technical sense. He concedes that Michel Foucault's "discourse" is possibly nearer the mark, and he might have done better still to settle for "behaviour". No matter. He writes with agreeable clarity, and in five short chapters his easy, free-wheeling style carries us a remarkably long way. "Each chapter sets out in a new direction and ends up returning to the same place — the place where slavery and honor intersect." He identifies three ways in which "men of honour" distinguished themselves from slaves: "they would never allow anyone to call them liars, they gave gifts; and they did not fear death."

Academic historians are not always the most natural of story-tellers, but Greenberg draws the reader after him as effortlessly as a Roald Dahl: "John Brown arrived in Harper's Ferry, Virginia, with hundreds of rifles and revolvers — as well as with pikes to be used by slaves to impale their masters."

Elsewhere, he has interesting things to say about duelling ("a conversation between two men in which each tried to remain a master and to avoid becoming a slave"), and detects similarities between the duel and the hunt — "the hunter, like the duelist, often thought of his adversary as a worthy opponent." Not always, though. Greenberg reveals that there were some animals — the raccoon, for instance, and the opossum — that did not have the kind of character that would enhance the reputation of their killers. "A 'Possum, Sir," one Southern hunter informed an ignorant friend, "is not a critter, but a varmint."

Greenberg, in his *Masters and Statesmen*, has previously explored the political culture of American slavery. There are moments in *Honor & Slavery* when he appears to be hang-gliding over the less well-mapped territory of psycho-history. Here be dragons. He acknowledges the influence of various works in the fields of linguistics and ethnography, and draws our attention to discussions of honour that have emphasized similar values in other societies — *Blood Revenge: The Enactment and Management of Conflict in Montenegro*, for example, or *Metaphors of Masculinity: Sex and Status in Andalusian Folklore*.

I don't think he's pulling our leg, and if he is, I don't think we should mind, because he does it most entertainingly: "When the man of honor is told that he smells, he does not draw a bath — he draws a pistol. The man of honor does not care if he stinks, but he does care that someone has accused him of stinking." Quite right too.

Try some tetrameter

Michael Hofmann

COLLECTED POEMS
Volume 2, 1985-96
By Peter Reading
Bloodaxe, £20
ISBN 1 85224 356 2

PETER READING's poems from 25 years and 17 individual books have been collected and published in two hefty volumes. The first, *Poems 1970-1974*, appeared last year, with Isabel Martin's helpful and enthusiastic introduction. The second, bringing us bang up to date, is now out. For a poet to be collected like this, and at the age of 50 in mid-career, is quite unheard of. But if anyone deserves the accolade it is Reading: prolific, distinctive and controversial, "the unofficial laureate of a decaying nation", Tom Paulin has called him.

In public poetry — state-of-the-nation, state-of-the-world, why-are-we-here, what-is-this-crummy-thing-called-life — it is generally rhyme that provides the backbone: Tony Harrison is an example that springs to mind. What sets Peter Reading apart is that he uses metre for the job, mostly Classical dactyllic metre, Latin in hexameters and couplets and older Greek forms too. The effect is extraordinary and particular to Reading: he has customised the language more radically than any other poet of the moment.

Deliberately squalid, violent and apocalyptic contemporary contents are yoked to forms that for the best part of three millennia have been used for the beautiful and the heroic, and that even in English carry echoes of Victorian poets like Clough and Swinburne, or Georgians like Housman and Masefield. And here, taking his place among them, is Peter Reading describing a scene in which three dipsos (or "dispos (*sic*) presumably dispossessed") are falling upon tubs of supermarket-surplus mint ice cream:

"Each grasps a 2-litre polythene tub from which is extracted scoopings of green ice by black half-mooned fingers./ Slurping and beard-smirch, guzzle and emerald puke, punctuate pulls from the communal Blue of methyl *amnesia*."

This may strike the reader as wilfully, even unbearably sordid, but it has documentary value (Reading, like Goya, says: I have seen this, these things happen) and — however ironic it has literary value too: in the studied diction, in the colour imagery, in the dactyls and trochees.

The collision between irresistible — or perhaps more accurately, all-too-resistible — content and immovable form is Reading's Big Bang. Over the years, it has thrown up innumerable variations and refinements. For instance, his 1985 book *Ukelele Music*, which opens this second volume of the *Collected*, assembles violent scenes from England and abroad, the comically illiterate notes of "Viv", a charlady who works for a grim poet (not a million miles away from Reading by the sound of him) and a retired sea captain, stirring tales of adventure on the high seas and instructions on how to play the ukelele. Connecting these disparate and unlikely strands, each cunningly formed according to its own rules, are such things as Viv's trite P. S.: "worse things happen at SEA", her mis-spelt "LUTEing" and the suggestion of a pun on "George" Formby.

Reading: unofficial laureate

Other books are similarly arranged and composed, using a prodigious array of forms and materials. (My favourite, and among the least expected, surely, is the wine-fancying talk: "Fat, buttery fumosity of amber decanted Madeira.") And then the books make a point of describing themselves ("Cranial voice loquacious/inadequte": "try our fun Catalectic Tetrameter, with Hexameter added"), and echo and look forward to one another. In addition, Reading, a former art student, has begun to ask for as much from his typesetter as he does from himself, all deepening and varying the pleasure there is from reading Reading.

A good many of his arrangements and juxtapositions do seem to me harsh and mechanical. I welcome signs, therefore, in the newest writing, of some personal core beyond the familiar gloom and outrage: the poems are beginning to look lived in, that quality that distinguishes, say, Kurt Schwitters from your regulation collage.

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Never has a new season promised so much. Football's homecoming, with the success of Euro 96 and the arrival of some of the world's most exciting players for some of the most astonishing transfer fees, has raised the game's popularity to even higher planes.

And you can play your part again this season. Interactive Team Football (ITF), the state-of-the-art football game, returns bigger and better. *The Times*, in association with Sky Sports Interactive, is offering you the chance to show your football knowledge by selecting a team from the best players in Britain — those in the FA Carling Premiership and the leading clubs in the Bell's Scottish League. That expertise will be rewarded, too, with a £50,000 prize for the winning team selector and a further £1,000 going to the selector of the best team of the month and £250 for the best team of the week throughout the season.

You have £35 million with which to assemble your ITF team and then, week by week, juggle your squad with a wary eye on the transfer market. You will be able to respond to changes in a player's form and fitness with careful buying and selling and, just as every manager must keep the man with the purse strings happy, you must always keep within your £35 million budget.

Not only will you be pitting your selectorial skills against other readers of *The Times*, you will also be matching your wits against those in the know. With the support of the Professional Footballers' Association (PFA), current Premiership players have been encouraged to enter sides of their own.

So what do you have to do? You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager. Study the lists of players in the five categories — goalkeepers, full backs, central defenders, midfield players and strikers — and the price of each. You must select a team in 4-4-2 formation, including one goalkeeper, two full backs, two central defenders, four midfield players and two strikers. You must pick a manager — who will have a price tag too.

All the players and managers have been allotted a five-digit code. Once you have selected your ITF team, you may enter it by post or telephone, using the entry form below. Then it is down to your players to score the points to take you to the top of the selectors' league. All matches from Saturday August 17 in the FA Carling Premiership, the Bell's Scottish League premier division and those in the FA Cup involving Premiership clubs and the Tennents Scottish Cup involving premier division clubs will count.

But how should you choose your team? The essential rules are that you cannot have more than two individuals (two players or one player and the manager) from any one club in your team, you may not pick the same player twice and that you must not exceed your budget of £35 million. For example, if you select as your strikers the Liverpool pairing of Stan Collymore and Robbie Fowler, that will take up your Liverpool allocation. If, however, one of your selected midfield players, say Paul Gascoigne, leaves Rangers to join Liverpool, you will then have three at the Anfield club — but you need not worry. ITF has an active transfer system, which is in operation from Saturday August 17 and you will be able to adjust your team accordingly. You must replace the outgoing player with one from the same category (a full back with a full back) and keep within your £35 million budget. Equally, if one of your players is transferred out of the Premiership or Scottish League premier division, he is no longer eligible for ITF. Any players from outside the Premiership or Scottish League premier division that are transferred to clubs playing in the top level during the season will become available for transfer. Note, too, that there are several additional players since ITF was launched on Monday.

You have almost two weeks in which to enter a team and you may enter as many times as you like. Postal entries will start scoring as soon as they are processed and telephone entries made by 12 noon will start scoring from matches played on that day onwards.

Your players and manager will win *and* lose you points. Points are awarded depending on every goal scored and conceded with three points earned for a goalkeeper or defender (full back and central defender) scoring a goal, two points for a midfield player or striker scoring, three points for a defender keeping a clean sheet (not letting in a goal), four points for a goalkeeper maintaining a clean sheet, one point for a midfield player keeping a clean sheet and all players receive one point for appearing in a match (providing they play for 45 minutes in that game). Any player scoring a hat-trick will receive six bonus points. To secure points for a clean sheet, a player must have played for at least 75 minutes in that match.

Points will be deducted for every goal a defender concedes (one), every goal a goalkeeper concedes (two), every booking a player receives (one), every time a player is sent off (three) and a point each for a penalty conceded by a player, a penalty missed and every own goal scored by a player.

If you have selected Kevin Keegan as your manager, you will earn three points if Newcastle United win, one point if they draw and have a point docked if they lose. If Keegan was dismissed or moved to a club outside the Premiership or Scottish League premier division, you would need a new manager.

There are two methods by which you may enter:

By post: fill in the entry form below (there is a step-by-step guide provided) showing the team in formation (photocopies are not acceptable) and send it with a cheque or postal order for £2 payable to *The Times* Interactive Team Football to Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1ZZ to arrive by noon on Saturday, August 17. You will receive a letter of confirmation and notification of your Personal Identification Number (PIN) and team. The entry fee for registrations outside the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland is £5.

By telephone: using a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone, call **0891 405 011** to record your team following the simple step-by-step instructions. Calls will be charged at 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. Each call will last about eight minutes but will cost approximately double from a pay phone. The registration line for readers entering from the Republic of Ireland is **004 4990 100 320**. Each player you enter will be confirmed on the telephone after you have completed your selection and the selector given a PIN.

All ITF queries should be directed to 01582 488 122.

EXCLUSIVE TO ITF ENTRANTS

COMPETE IN A LEAGUE WITH YOUR FRIENDS — NEW ITF MINI LEAGUES

This season you and your friends can compete directly against each other in your own ITF Mini-League all you need are four or more people (up to a maximum of 100) and a nominated chairperson.

A Mini-League is simple to set up and costs only £2.50 extra. A Mini-League may only be entered by post. Each player must enclose his or her ITF application form in the normal way (see entry instructions on these pages).

All payments and entry forms must be in the same envelope along with the attached form and your additional £2.50, payable to *The Times* Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire, LU1 1ZZ. You cannot add members to your Mini-League after your initial entry.

The fee is £5 sterling for a Mini-League for entrants outside the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland. Further details are available from 01582 488122.

Each month, a letter will be sent to the chairperson showing the position of all entrants in their Mini-League.

MINI LEAGUE ENTRY FORM

I enclose all team entries in the same envelope along with an additional cheque/postal order for £2.50.
Please set up my Mini-League.

Chairperson's name ....

Mini-League name ....

I enclose .... entry forms with £2 entry fee each, plus an extra £2.50 to set up my mini league.

Total payment £ ....

See Sky Text, page 118

WIN A UNIQUE SOUVENIR OF EURO 96

A moment of history was made in Euro '96 when Gary and Philip Neville became the first brothers since the Charltons to be selected for England. To celebrate this event we have 20 Mitre footballs and 50 England shirts signed by the brothers to give away to players who enter *The Times* ITF by Friday August 16, 1996. The winners will be selected at random and notified by August 30. No purchase necessary.

Mitre is the official football of *The Times* ITF.

PLAY ITF ON-LINE

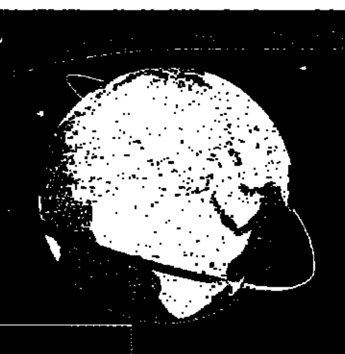
Play on-line to win all the great ITF prizes, including the £50,000 first prize. Plus play for special Internet prizes, such as the £1,000 top prize and the £250 monthly prize. You can also check your position in the internet league instantly, on-line.

HOW TO PLAY

1. Enter *The Times* Internet Edition at http://www.the-times.co.uk
2. Look for the special ITF button.
3. Entry on-line costs £7.50, payable only by credit card. This allows you to make transfers for the entire season.

IN ASSOCIATION WITH

See Sky Text, page 118



HOW TO PLAY

You have £35 million to spend on a team of 11 players and a manager

You must pick

1 GOALKEEPER
2 CENTRAL DEFENDERS
2 STRIKERS
2 FULL BACKS
4 MIDFIELD PLAYERS
1 MANAGER

Choose your players and manager from the Interactive Team Football category lists (which include code numbers and values). The total value of your 11 players and manager must not exceed £35 million.

You must not pick more than two individuals (two players or one player and a manager) from the same club and no player can be picked twice.

Your players and manager accumulate points in all 1996-97 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup from Saturday August 17 onwards. Every goal they score or concede counts towards your total. The team with the most points at the end of the season will win the £50,000 first prize. You may enter as many teams as you like.

HOW TO ENTER BY POST

Fill in the entry form on the ball, right (photocopies are not acceptable) and send it with a cheque or postal order for £2 payable to The Times Interactive Team Football to Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ. The entry fee for registrations outside the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland is £5, which may only be made by post.

Postal entries must be received prior to Saturday August 17 and telephone entries must be made by 12 noon on Saturday August 17 in order to start scoring from the beginning of the season. Postal entrants will receive a letter of confirmation and notification of their Personal Identification Number (PIN) and team.

HOW TO ENTER BY TELEPHONE

You must have a Touch-tone (DTMF) telephone (most push-button telephones with a * and a hash key are Touch-tone) to enter. You cannot enter using a rotary dial or "pulse" telephone. You can enter your team by dialling 0891 405 011 (from the Republic of Ireland you must dial 004 4990 100 320).

Then follow the simple step-by-step instructions. Listen carefully and take your time. The recorded message will ask you to tap in (not speak) the full set of selections (using the five-digit player codes) for each of your chosen players and your manager in the following order: the goalkeeper, the two full backs, the two central defenders, the four midfield players, the two strikers and the manager.

You will then be asked to give the name of your team (no more than 16 characters) and to record your name, address (with postcode) and daytime telephone number. Finally, you will be given a ten-digit Personal Identification Number (PIN). Please be patient. You have plenty of time to make your entry. Use The Times Interactive Team Football form, right, to record your selections and your PIN. Calls cost 39p per minute cheap rate, 49p per minute at other times. Each call will last about eight minutes.

Each player you enter will be confirmed on the telephone after you have completed each selection. You will be notified of your PIN at the end of the call.

No postal notification will be sent.

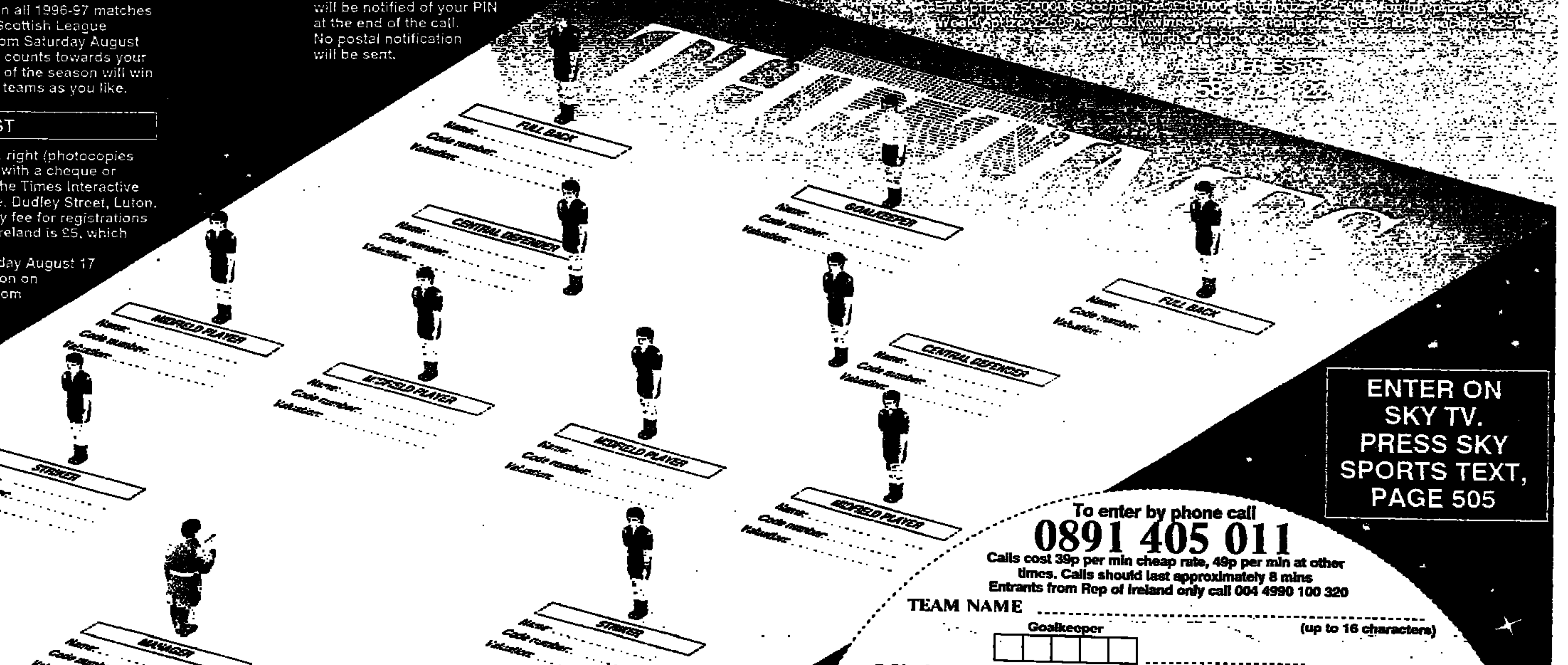
HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER

Interactive Team Football has an active transfer system to allow you to respond to changes in form and fitness and to players moving in and out of the Premiership and Scottish League premier division. You may transfer up to two individuals (player or manager) during a transfer period but you must keep to the team format (ie a full back must be replaced by a full back and no more than two individuals from the same club) and you must keep within the £35 million budget. If a player moves teams during the season and it affects the composition of your team, you must act (ie if you have two Arsenal players and one of your other players moves to Arsenal, you will have three players from the same club and will need to adjust it). You should use the transfer line to correct the situation to avoid missing out on points. Incorrect transfers will be rejected and your team will remain in its previous form. The transfer line number is 0891 866 968 (from the Republic of Ireland and outside the United Kingdom it is 44 990 200 668). The line opens at 6am on Saturday August 17 and from then up to midnight on Monday August 19 you may make two changes. If you wish to make last-minute changes to your team, to be effective for that Saturday's matches, you must make them by 12 noon on Saturday August 17. The transfer week then runs from 00.01 on Tuesdays to midnight the following Monday. Transfers made before 12 noon on any day will become effective immediately. Transfers made after 12 noon will become effective for matches played after 12 noon the following day. You may only make a transfer by telephone. You will need your PIN. New players score points when his transfer is registered.

PRIZES

First prize £50,000. Second prize [illegible]

Weekly prize £250 [illegible]



ENTER ON SKY TV. PRESS SKY SPORTS TEXT, PAGE 505

To enter by phone call

0891 405 011

Calls cost 39p per min cheap rate, 49p per min at other times. Calls should last approximately 8 mins
Entrants from Rep of Ireland only call 004 4990 100 320

TEAM NAME .... (up to 16 characters)

Goalkeeper ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Full back ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Full back ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Central defender ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Central defender ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Midfielder ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Strikers ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Strikers ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

Manager ☐☐☐☐☐ ....

PIN ☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐☐

Name ....

Address ....

.... Postcode .... Daytime telephone no ....

Send your entries (with £2 entry fee) entrants outside the UK or Rep of Ireland (£5 sterling) to: The Times Interactive Team Football, Abacus House, Dudley Street, Luton, Bedfordshire LU1 1ZZ

Which age group are you ? (TICK BOX)
(1) 15-24 ☐ (2) 25-34 ☐
(3) 35-44 ☐ (4) 45-54 ☐
(5) 55-64 ☐ (6) 65+ ☐

Which daily newspaper(s) do you buy?
(a) regularly ....
(b) occasionally ....

If you do not wish to receive other offers from The Times, please tick this box ☐

HOW THE SCORING SYSTEM WORKS

All 1996-97 matches in the FA Carling Premiership, FA Cup, Bell's Scottish League premier division and Tennents Scottish Cup count for points. Penalty shootouts do not count but results decided in this way will count for managers.

POINTS SCORED

Goalkeeper		Striker	
Keeps clean sheet†	4pts	Scores goal	2pts
Scores goal	3pts		
Saves penalty	1pt	All players	
		Appearance*	1pt
Full backs/Central defender		Scores hat-trick	6pts
Keeps clean sheet†	3pts		
Scores goal	3pts	Manager	
		Team wins	3pts
		Team draws	1pt
Midfield player			
Keeps clean sheet†	1pt		
Scores goal	2pts		

†must have played for 75 minutes in the match
*must have played for 45 minutes in the match

POINTS DEDUCTED

Goalkeeper		All players	
Concedes goal	2pts	Sent off	3pts
		Booked	1pt
Full backs/Central defender		Concedes penalty	1pt
Concedes goal	1pt	Misses penalty	1pt
		Scores own goal	1pt
Manager			
Team loses	1pt		

EXAMPLE

Your midfield players scores three goals (3 x 2pts plus 6pt bonus = 12pts), is booked (minus 1pt), misses a penalty (minus 1pt) and plays throughout (1pt) in a 3-0 win (clean sheet = 1pt). He has scored 12 points in that match.

Geoffrey Sims/Paul Bryant

[illegible]

Study the list of players and their values and pick an ITF team to beat the best

GOALKEEPERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
10101	Michael Watt	Aberdeen	1.50
10201	David Seaman	Arsenal	5.00
10202	Vince Bartram	Arsenal	0.75
10203	John Lukic	Arsenal	0.75
10301	Mark Bosnich	Aston Villa	3.50
10302	Michael Oakes	Aston Villa	1.00
10401	Tim Flowers	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
10402	Shay Given	Blackburn Rovers	2.00
10501	Gordon Marshall	Celtic	3.50
10601	Dmitri Kharine	Chelsea	2.50
10602	Kevin Hitchcock	Chelsea	2.00
10701	Steve Ogrizovic	Coventry City	1.50
10702	John Filan	Coventry City	0.50
10801	Martin Taylor	Derby County	1.00
10802	Russell Hoult	Derby County	1.00
10803	Steve Sutton	Derby County	0.50
10901	Ally Maxwell	Dundee United	0.50
11001	Ian Westwater	Dunfermline	0.50
11101	Neville Southall	Everton	2.50
11102	Jason Kearton	Everton	0.50
11103	Paul Gerrard	Everton	2.50
11201	Gilles Rousset	Hearts	2.00
11301	Jim Leighton	Hibernian	1.50
11401	Dragoje Lekovic	Kilmarnock	1.00
11501	Mark Beeney	Leeds United	1.50
11502	Paul Evans	Leeds United	0.25
11503	Nigel Martyn	Leeds United	2.50
11601	Kevin Poole	Leicester City	1.00
11602	Zeljko Kalac	Leicester City	0.50
11701	David James	Liverpool	5.00
11702	Tony Warner	Liverpool	0.50
11801	Peter Schmeichel	Manchester United	5.00
11802	Raimond van der Gouw	Manchester United	1 00
11901	Gary Walsh	Middlesbrough	1.50
11902	Alan Miller	Middlesbrough	1.50
12001	Scott Howie	Motherwell	1.50
12101	Shaka Hislop	Newcastle United	4.00
12102	Pavel Smicek	Newcastle United	3 00
12201	Mark Crossley	Nottingham Forest	2.50
12202	Alan Fettis	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12203	Tommy Wright	Nottingham Forest	0.75
12301	Scott Y Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50
12401	Andy Goram	Rangers	5.00
12501	Kevin Pressman	Sheffield Wed	2.00
12601	Dave Beasant	Southampton	1.00
12602	Neil Moss	Southampton	0.25
11803	Tony Coton	Sunderland	1.00
12801	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.50
12901	Ludek Miklosko	West Ham United	2.00
12902	Steve Mautone	West Ham United	0.50
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	1.00
13002	Paul Heald	Wimbledon	1.00

FULL BACKS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
20101	Stewart McKimmie	Aberdeen	2.00
20102	Gary Smith	Aberdeen	1.50
20201	Lee Dixon	Arsenal	3.00
20202	Nigel Winterburn	Arsenal	3.00
20203	Steve Morrow	Arsenal	1.00
20301	Steve Staunton	Aston Villa	3.00
20302	Alan Wright	Aston Villa	3.00
20303	Gary Charles	Aston Villa	2.50
20304	Phil King	Aston Villa	0 25
20305	Fernando Nelson	Aston Villa	3.00
20401	Henning Berg	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20402	Graeme Le Saux	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20403	Jeff Kenna	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
20404	Gary Croft	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
20501	Jackie McNamara	Celtic	3.00
20502	Tosh McKinlay	Celtic	3.00
20601	Dan Petrescu	Chelsea	3.00
20602	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	2.00
20603	Terry Phelan	Chelsea	2.00
20604	Scott Minto	Chelsea	1.00
20605	Anthony Barness	Chelsea	0.50
20701	David Burrows	Coventry City	1.50
20703	Brian Borrows	Coventry City	1.00
20704	Marcus Hall	Coventry City	1.00
20801	Chris Powell	Derby County	1.50
20802	Dean Yates	Derby County	1.00
20803	Jason Kavanagh	Derby County	0.25
20901	Maurice Malpas	Dundee United	1 00
20902	Mark Perry	Dundee United	0.50
20903	Neil Duffy	Dundee United	0.50
21001	Colin Miller	Dunfermline	0.25
21002	Andy Tod	Dunfermline	0.25
21101	Marc Hottiger	Everton	2.50
21102	Andy Hinchcliffe	Everton	2.00
21103	Earl Barrett	Everton	1.50
21104	Matt Jackson	Everton	1.00
21201	Gary Locke	Hearts	2.00
21202	Neil Pointon	Hearts	1.00
21301	Willie Miller	Hibernian	1.00
21302	Andy Dow	Hibernian	1 00
21401	Tom Black	Kilmarnock	0.75
21402	Gus MacPherson	Kilmarnock	0.50
21501	Gary Kelly	Leeds United	3.00
21502	Tony Dorigo	Leeds United	2.50
21503	Paul Beesley	Leeds United	0.50
21601	Mike Whitlow	Leicester City	0.50
21602	Simon Grayson	Leicester City	0.50
21603	Neil Lewis	Leicester City	0.50
21604	Frank Rolling	Leicester City	0.25
21701	Rob Jones	Liverpool	3.00
21702	Steve Harkness	Liverpool	1.50
21703	Stig Inge Bjornebye	Liverpool	0.50
21704	Phil Charnock	Liverpool	0.25
21801	Denis Irwin	Manchester United	4.00
21802	Gary Neville	Manchester United	3.00
21803	Phil Neville	Manchester United	3.00
21901	Neil Cox	Middlesbrough	2.50
21902	Branco	Middlesbrough	1.50
21903	Chris Morris	Middlesbrough	1.50
21904	Curtis Fleming	Middlesbrough	0.75
21905	Clayton Blackmore	Middlesbrough	0.25
22001	Rob McKinnon	Motherwell	1.00
22002	Stephen McMillan	Motherwell	0.50
22101	Warren Barton	Newcastle United	3.00
22102	Steve Watson	Newcastle United	3.00
22103	Robbie Elliott	Newcastle United	2.50
22104	John Beresford	Newcastle United	2.50
22201	Stuart Pearce	Nottingham Forest	4.00
22202	Des Lyttle	Nottingham Forest	2.00
22203	Alf Inge Haaland	Nottingham Forest	1.00
22204	Nikola Jerkan	Nottingham Forest	2.00
22301	Paul Bonar	Raith Rovers	0.75
22302	Davie Kirkwood	Raith Rovers	0.50
22401	David Robertson	Rangers	2.50
22402	John Brown	Rangers	2.00
22501	Ian Nolan	Sheffield Wed	1.50
22502	Peter Atherton	Sheffield Wed	1.50
22503	Steve Nicol	Sheffield Wed	1.00
22504	Dejan Stefanovic	Sheffield Wed	1.00
22505	Lee Briscoe	Sheffield Wed	0.50
22601	Jason Dodd	Southampton	1.50
22602	Francis Benali	Southampton	0.75
22603	Simon Charlton	Southampton	0.75
22701	Dariusz Kubicki	Sunderland	0.50
22702	Martin Scott	Sunderland	0.50
22703	Gareth Hall	Sunderland	0.25
22801	Dean Austin	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22802	Clive Wilson	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
22803	Justin Edinburgh	Tottenham Hotspur	1.00
22804	David Kerslake	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
22901	Julian Dicks	West Ham United	4.00
22902	Tim Breacker	West Ham United	1.00
22903	Keith Rowland	West Ham United	1.00
22904	Mark Bowen	West Ham United	1.00
22905	Kenny Brown	West Ham United	0.50
23001	Ben Thatcher	Wimbledon	1.50
23002	Alan Kimble	Wimbledon	0.75
23003	Ken Cunningham	Wimbledon	0.75
23004	Duncan Jupp	Wimbledon	0.75
23005	Gary Elkins	Wimbledon	0.25
23006	Chris Perry	Wimbledon	0.25

Kanchelskis, left, had a disappointing European championship, but ITF selectors will be aware of his qualities

CENTRAL DEFENDERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
30101	Brian Irvine	Aberdeen	2.00
30102	Colin Woodthorpe	Aberdeen	1.50
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	4.00
30202	Steve Bould	Arsenal	3 00
30203	Martin Keown	Arsenal	3.00
30204	Andy Linighan	Arsenal	1.00
30205	Scott Marshall	Arsenal	1.00
30301	Gareth Southgate	Aston Villa	3.50
30302	Ugo Ehiogu	Aston Villa	3.00
30303	Paul McGrath	Aston Villa	2.50
30304	Carl Tiler	Aston Villa	1.00
30305	Ricardo Scimeca	Aston Villa	1.00
30401	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	4.00
30402	Ian Pearce	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30403	Chris Coleman	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
30404	Nicky Marker	Blackburn Rovers	0.50
30501	Tommy Boyd	Celtic	3.00
30502	Malky MacKay	Celtic	1.50
30601	Michael Duberry	Chelsea	2 50
30602	Franck LeBoeuf	Chelsea	2.50
30603	Frank Sinclair	Chelsea	2.00
30604	David Lee	Chelsea	2.00
30605	Andy Myers	Chelsea	1.50
30606	Erland Johnsen	Chelsea	1 50
30607	Jakob Kjeldbjerg	Chelsea	0.50
30701	Liam Daish	Coventry City	2 00
30702	Richard Shaw	Coventry City	1.50
30703	David Busst	Coventry City	1.00
30801	Igor Stimac	Derby County	2.50
30802	Darren Wassall	Derby County	1.00
30803	Jacob Laursen	Derby County	1.00
30804	Matthew Carbon	Derby County	0.50
30901	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	1.00
30902	Brian Welsh	Dundee United	0.75
31001	Marc Millar	Dunfermline	0.75
31002	Ivo den Bieman	Dunfermline	0.75
31101	David Unsworth	Everton	2.50
31102	Dave Watson	Everton	2.50
31103	Craig Short	Everton	2.00
31201	Dave McPherson	Hearts	1 00
31202	Paul Ritchie	Hearts	1.00
31301	Joe McLaughlin	Hibernian	0 50
31302	Gordon Hunter	Hibernian	0.50
31401	Mark Reilly	Kilmarnock	1.00
31402	Ray Montgomerie	Kilmarnock	0.75
31501	David Wetherall	Leeds United	2.50
31502	Richard Jobson	Leeds United	1.00
31503	Lucas Radebe	Leeds United	1 00
31504	John Pemberton	Leeds United	0.50
31601	Steve Walsh	Leicester City	1.00
31602	Julian Watts	Leicester City	1.00
31603	Pontus Kamaark	Leicester City	0.50
31701	Phil Babb	Liverpool	3.50
31702	John Scales	Liverpool	3.50
31703	Mark Wright	Liverpool	3.50
31704	Neil Ruddock	Liverpool	3.00
31705	Dominic Matteo	Liverpool	1 00
31801	Gary Pallister	Manchester United	3 50
31802	David May	Manchester United	3.00
31803	Ronnie Johnsen	Manchester United	2.50
31901	Nigel Pearson	Middlesbrough	1.50
31902	Steve Vickers	Middlesbrough	1.50
31903	Derek Whyte	Middlesbrough	1 50
31904	Phil Whelan	Middlesbrough	0.75
32001	Brian Martin	Motherwell	1.50
32002	Michel van der Gaag	Motherwell	0 75
32101	Philippe Albert	Newcastle United	4.50
32102	Steve Howey	Newcastle United	3.00
32103	Darren Peacock	Newcastle United	3.00
32201	Colin Cooper	Nottingham Forest	3.00
32202	Steve Chettle	Nottingham Forest	2.50
32302	Shaun Dennis	Raith Rovers	1.00
32401	Richard Gough	Rangers	3.50
32402	Alan McLaren	Rangers	3.00
32403	Joachim Bjorklund	Rangers	3.50
32501	Jon Newsome	Sheffield Wed	2.00
32502	Des Walker	Sheffield Wed	1.50
32503	Brian Linighan	Sheffield Wed	0.25
32601	Ken Monkou	Southampton	1.50
32602	Alan Neilson	Southampton	1.00
32603	Richard Dryden	Southampton	0.50
32701	Andrew Melville	Sunderland	1.00
32702	Kevin Ball	Sunderland	1.00
32703	Richard Ord	Sunderland	0.50
32801	Sol Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32802	Colin Calderwood	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
32803	Gary Mabbutt	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
32804	Jason Cundy	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32805	Kevin Scott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32806	Stuart Nethercott	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
32901	Slaven Bilic	West Ham United	2.50
32902	Marc Rieper	West Ham United	2 50
32903	Steve Potts	West Ham United	2.00
32904	Richard Hall	West Ham United	1 50
32905	Rio Ferdinand	West Ham United	0.50
32906	Adrian Whitbread	West Ham United	0.25
33001	Alan Reeves	Wimbledon	1.00
33002	Andy Thom	Wimbledon	0.75
33003	Andy Pearce	Wimbledon	0.75
33004	Dean Blackwell	Wimbledon	0.50
33005	Brian McAllister	Wimbledon	0.50
33006	Scott Fitzgerald	Wimbledon	0 25

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
40101	Dean Windass	Aberdeen	3.00
40102	Stephen Glass	Aberdeen	3.00
40103	Paul Bernard	Aberdeen	2.50
40104	Ilian Kiriakov	Aberdeen	2 50
40201	David Platt	Arsenal	4.50
40202	Paul Merson	Arsenal	4 00
40203	Ray Parlour	Arsenal	2.00
40204	Glenn Helder	Arsenal	1.50
40205	Ian Selley	Arsenal	0 50
40206	David Hillier	Arsenal	0.50
40207	Eddie McGoldrick	Arsenal	0.50
40301	Mark Draper	Aston Villa	4.00
40302	Andy Townsend	Aston Villa	2.50
40303	Ian Taylor	Aston Villa	2.50
40304	Gareth Farrelly	Aston Villa	1.00
40305	Franz Carr	Aston Villa	0.50
40401	Jason Wilcox	Blackburn Rovers	4.00
40402	Lars Bohinen	Blackburn Rovers	3.50
40403	Garry Flitcroft	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
40404	Billy McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2 50
40405	Tim Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
40406	Paul Warhurst	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
40407	George Donis	Blackburn Rovers	1.50
40408	Stuart Ripley	Blackburn Rovers	1.00
40409	Matt Holmes	Blackburn Rovers	0.75
40501	Paul McStay	Celtic	3.00
40502	Andreas Thom	Celtic	2.50
40503	Simon Donnelly	Celtic	2.50
40504	Peter Grant	Celtic	1.50
40505	Paolo di Canio	Celtic	3.00
40601	Ruud Gullit	Chelsea	3.50
40602	Dennis Wise	Chelsea	3.00
40603	Gavin Peacock	Chelsea	2.50
40604	Craig Burley	Chelsea	2.00
40605	Eddie Newton	Chelsea	2.00
40607	David Rocastle	Chelsea	0 50
40608	Roberto di Matteo	Chelsea	3.00
41501	Gary McAllister	Coventry City	5 50
40701	John Salako	Coventry City	2.50
40702	Eoin Jess	Coventry City	2.00
40703	Kevin Richardson	Coventry City	1.50
40704	Paul Telfer	Coventry City	1.50
40705	Paul Williams	Coventry City	1.50
40706	Isaias	Coventry City	0.50
40707	Willie Boland	Coventry City	0.25
40708	Michael O'Neill	Coventry City	1.50
40801	Aljosa Asanovic	Derby County	2.00
40802	Paul Simpson	Derby County	1.50
40803	Robin van der Laan	Derby County	1.50
40804	Darryl Powell	Derby County	1.00
40805	Sean Flynn	Derby County	0.75
40806	David Preece	Derby County	0.50
40807	Gary Rowett	Derby County	0.50
40808	Paul Trollope	Derby County	0.50
40809	Christian Dailly	Derby County	1.50
40901	Gary McSwegan	Dundee United	2.00
40902	Robbie Winters	Dundee United	1.50
40903	Grant Johnson	Dundee United	1.00
40904	David Bowman	Dundee United	0.75
41001	Hamish French	Dunfermline	1 00
41002	Craig Robertson	Dunfermline	1.00
41003	Andy Smith	Dunfermline	0.75
41004	Derek Fleming	Dunfermline	0.50
41101	Andrei Kanchelskis	Everton	7.00
41102	Gary Speed	Everton	4.00
41103	John Ebbrell	Everton	1 50
41104	Joe Parkinson	Everton	1.50
41105	Anders Limpar	Everton	1.50
41106	Tony Grant	Everton	0.50
41107	Vinnie Samways	Everton	0.50
41201	Alan Johnston	Hearts	2.50
41202	Allan McManus	Hearts	1.50
41203	Steve Fulton	Hearts	1.00
41301	Kevin McAllister	Hibernian	1.50
41302	Pat McGinlay	Hibernian	1.50
41303	Graeme Love	Hibernian	0.75
41304	Andy Millen	Hibernian	0.50
41401	Ally Mitchell	Kilmarnock	1.00
41402	Jim McIntyre	Kilmarnock	1.00
41403	Mark Skilling	Kilmarnock	0.75
41404	Jim Lauchlan	Kilmarnock	0.50
41502	Lee Bowyer	Leeds United	3.00
41503	Andy Gray	Leeds United	2.50
41504	Carlton Palmer	Leeds United	2.00
41505	Rod Wallace	Leeds United	1.50
41506	Ian Harte	Leeds United	1.00
41507	Mark Ford	Leeds United	0.50
41508	Andy Couzens	Leeds United	0.50
41509	Mark Tinkler	Leeds United	0 50
40606	Muzzy Izzet	Leicester City	1.00
41601	Neil Lennon	Leicester City	2.00
41602	Garry Parker	Leicester City	2.00
41603	Scott Taylor	Leicester City	2.00
41604	Jamie Lawrence	Leicester City	0.25
41701	Steve McManaman	Liverpool	7.00
41702	Jason McAteer	Liverpool	4.00
41703	Jamie Redknapp	Liverpool	4.00
41704	John Barnes	Liverpool	3.00
41705	Mark Thomas	Liverpool	2.50
41706	Mark Kennedy	Liverpool	1.00
41801	Ryan Giggs	Manchester United	7 00
41802	Roy Keane	Manchester United	4.50
41803	David Beckham	Manchester United	4.00
41804	Nicky Butt	Manchester United	3.50
41805	Lee Sharpe	Manchester United	3 50
41806	Brian McClair	Manchester United	1.50
41807	Terry Cooke	Manchester United	1.00
41808	Ben Thornley	Manchester United	1.00
41809	Simon Davies	Manchester United	0.50
41810	Jordi Cruyff	Manchester United	2.50
41811	Karel Poborsky	Manchester United	4.00
41901	Emerson	Middlesbrough	3.50
41902	Juninho	Middlesbrough	3.50
41903	Craig Hignett	Middlesbrough	2.00
41904	Jamie Pollock	Middlesbrough	2.00
41905	Alan Moore	Middlesbrough	1.00
41906	Robbie Mustoe	Middlesbrough	1.00
41907	Graham Kavanagh	Middlesbrough	0.50
41908	Craig Liddle	Middlesbrough	0 50
41909	Bryan Robson	Middlesbrough	0.50
41910	Phil Stamp	Middlesbrough	0.50
42001	Chris McCart	Motherwell	2.00
42002	John Philliben	Motherwell	1.00
42003	Jimmy Dolan	Motherwell	1.00
42004	John Hendry	Motherwell	0.75
42101	David Ginola	Newcastle United	5.50
42102	Robert Lee	Newcastle United	5.50
42103	Keith Gillespie	Newcastle United	4.50
42104	David Batty	Newcastle United	3.00
42105	Lee Clark	Newcastle United	3.00
42106	Chris Holland	Newcastle United	0.50
42201	Ian Woan	Nottingham Forest	4.50
42202	Steve Stone	Nottingham Forest	4.00
42203	Scot Gemmill	Nottingham Forest	2.50
42204	Chris Bart-Williams	Nottingham Forest	2.00
42205	David Phillips	Nottingham Forest	1.00
42301	Tony Rougier	Raith Rovers	2.00
42302	Danny Lennon	Raith Rovers	1.00
42303	Jim McInally	Raith Rovers	0.75
42304	Scott Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50
42401	Paul Gascoigne	Rangers	7.00
42402	Brian Laudrup	Rangers	5.00
42403	Stuart McCall	Rangers	2.00
42404	Trevor Steven	Rangers	1.50
42405	Jorg Albertz	Rangers	4 00
42501	Regi Blinker	Sheffield Wed	2.50
42502	Mark Pembridge	Sheffield Wed	1.50
42503	John Sheridan	Sheffield Wed	1.50
42504	Graham Hyde	Sheffield Wed	1.50
42505	Chris Waddle	Sheffield Wed	1.50
42506	Michael Williams	Sheffield Wed	0.50
42507	Ryan Jones	Sheffield Wed	0.50
42601	Jim Magilton	Southampton	2.50
42602	Neil Heaney	Southampton	1.00
42604	Barry Venison	Southampton	1.00
42606	David Hughes	Southampton	0.50
42607	Matthew Oakley	Southampton	0.50
42608	Paul Tisdale	Southampton	0.50
42609	Matt Robinson	Southampton	0.25
42610	Graham Potter	Southampton	0.50
42701	Michael Gray	Sunderland	2.50
42702	Steve Agnew	Sunderland	1 50
42703	Alex Rae	Sunderland	1.50
42704	Paul Bracewell	Sunderland	0.75
42705	Martin Smith	Sunderland	1.00
42801	Darren Anderton	Tottenham Hotspur	5.50
42802	Ruel Fox	Tottenham Hotspur	4.00
42803	David Howells	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
42804	Jason Dozzell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.00
42805	Andy Sinton	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50
42806	Ronnie Rosenthal	Tottenham Hotspur	1.50
42807	Gerry McMahon	Tottenham Hotspur	0.50
42808	Andy Turner	Tottenham Hotspur	0.25
42809	Allan Nielsen	Tottenham Hotspur	2.50
42901	Paolo Futre	West Ham United	3.50
42902	Ian Bishop	West Ham United	2.00
42903	Michael Hughes	West Ham United	2.00
42904	Danny Williamson	West Ham United	1.50
42905	John Moncur	West Ham United	1.50
42906	Robbie Slater	West Ham United	1.00
42907	Stan Lazarides	West Ham United	0.25
43001	Robbie Earle	Wimbledon	4.00
43002	Oyvind Leonhardsen	Wimbledon	2 50
43003	Marcus Gayle	Wimbledon	2 00
43004	Vinnie Jones	Wimbledon	1.50
43005	Neil Ardley	Wimbledon	0.50
43006	Stewart Castledine	Wimbledon	0.50
43007	Paul Fear	Wimbledon	0.25

STRIKERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
50101	Scott Booth	Aberdeen	4.50
50102	Duncan Shearer	Aberdeen	3.00
50201	Ian Wright	Arsenal	7.00
50202	Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.00
50203	John Hartson	Arsenal	3.50
50204	Paul Dickov	Arsenal	0.75
50205	Chris Kiwomya	Arsenal	0.50
50301	Dwight Yorke	Aston Villa	7.50
50302	Savo Milosevic	Aston Villa	5.00
50303	Tommy Johnson	Aston Villa	4.00
50304	Julian Joachim	Aston Villa	2.00
50402	Kevin Gallacher	Blackburn Rovers	3 00
50404	Chris Sutton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
50405	Graham Fenton	Blackburn Rovers	2.50
50406	Niklas Gudmundsson	Blackburn Rovers	1.00
50501	Pierre van Hooijdonk	Celtic	7.00
50502	Jorge Cadete	Celtic	6.00
50601	Gianluca Vialli	Chelsea	5.00
50602	Mark Hughes	Chelsea	4.00
50603	John Spencer	Chelsea	4.00
50605	Mark Stein	Chelsea	0.50
50701	Noel Whelan	Coventry City	6.00
50702	Dion Dublin	Coventry City	5.00
50703	Peter Ndlovu	Coventry City	3.00
50801	Dean Sturridge	Derby County	3.00
50802	Marco Gabbiadini	Derby County	2.00
50803	Ashley Ward	Derby County	2.00
50804	Ron Willems	Derby County	1.00
50902	Owen Coyle	Dundee United	2 00
51001	Alan Moore	Dunfermline	2.00
51002	Stewart Petrie	Dunfermline	2.00
51101	Duncan Ferguson	Everton	6 00
51102	Graham Stuart	Everton	3.00
51104	Paul Rideout	Everton	2.00
51201	John Robertson	Hearts	3.50
51202	Colin Cameron	Hearts	3.50
51301	Keith Wright	Hibernian	3.00
51302	Darren Jackson	Hibernian	3.00
51401	Paul Wright	Kilmarnock	3.00
51402	Steve Maskrey	Kilmarnock	2.50
51501	Tony Yeboah	Leeds United	7.00
51502	Ian Rush	Leeds United	3.50
51503	Tomas Brolin	Leeds United	2.50
51504	Brian Deane	Leeds United	2.00
51601	Steve Claridge	Leicester City	2.50
51602	Emile Heskey	Leicester City	2.00
51603	Mark Robins	Leicester City	0.75
51701	Robbie Fowler	Liverpool	9.00
51702	Stan Collymore	Liverpool	8.00
51801	Eric Cantona	Manchester United	8.50
51802	Paul Scholes	Manchester United	5.00
51803	Andy Cole	Manchester United	4.50
51804	Ole Gunnar Solskjaer	Manchester United	3.00
51901	Nicky Barmby	Middlesbrough	4.00
51902	Jan Aage Fjortoft	Middlesbrough	2.50
51903	John Hendrie	Middlesbrough	0.75
51904	Jaime Moreno	Middlesbrough	0.50
51905	Fabrizio Ravanelli	Middlesbrough	5.00
52001	Tommy Coyne	Motherwell	2.00
52002	Doug Arnott	Motherwell	1.50
50401	Alan Shearer	Newcastle United	10.00
52101	Les Ferdinand	Newcastle United	8.50
52102	Faustino Asprilla	Newcastle United	6.50
52103	Peter Beardsley	Newcastle United	5.00
52104	Paul Kitson	Newcastle United	1.50
52105	Darren Huckerby	Newcastle United	0.50
52201	Dean Saunders	Nottingham Forest	3.50
52202	Bryan Roy	Nottingham Forest	3.00
52203	Paul McGregor	Nottingham Forest	1.50
52204	Kevin Campbell	Nottingham Forest	1.50
52205	Jason Lee	Nottingham Forest	1.50
52206	Steven Howe	Nottingham Forest	0.50
52207	Andrea Silenzi	Nottingham Forest	0.50
52301	Peter Duffield	Raith Rovers	2.00
52401	Gordon Durie	Rangers	6.00
52402	Erik Bo Andersen	Rangers	5.00
52403	Ally McCoist	Rangers	5.00
52501	David Hirst	Sheffield Wed	3.00
52502	Andy Booth	Sheffield Wed	2.50
52503	Mark Bright	Sheffield Wed	1.50
52504	Guy Whittingham	Sheffield Wed	1.50
52505	O'Neill Donaldson	Sheffield Wed	0.50
52601	Matthew Le Tissier	Southampton	7.00
52602	Neil Shipperley	Southampton	3.50
52603	Gordon Watson	Southampton	1.50
52604	Frankie Bennett	Southampton	0.25
52701	Paul Stewart	Sunderland	1.00
52702	Craig Russell	Sunderland	1.00
52703	David Kelly	Sunderland	1.00
52704	Lee Howey	Sunderland	0.50
52705	Michael Bridges	Sunderland	0.50
52706	Brett Angell	Sunderland	0.25
52707	Phil Gray	Sunderland	1.50
52801	Teddy Sheringham	Tottenham Hotspur	8.00
52802	Chris Armstrong	Tottenham Hotspur	7.00
52901	Florin Raducioiu	West Ham United	3.00
52902	Ilie Dumitrescu	West Ham United	2.50
52903	Iain Dowie	West Ham United	2.00
52904	Tony Cottee	West Ham United	2.00
52905	Steve Jones	West Ham United	1.50
53001	Dean Holdsworth	Wimbledon	3.00
53002	Efan Ekoku	Wimbledon	3.00
53003	John Goodman	Wimbledon	1.50
53004	Jason Euell	Wimbledon	0.75
53005	Andy Clarke	Wimbledon	0.75
53006	Mick Harford	Wimbledon	0.50
53007	Gary Blissett	Wimbledon	0.50

MANAGERS

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
60101	Roy Aitken	Aberdeen	2.50
60201	Bruce Rioch	Arsenal	3.50
60301	Brian Little	Aston Villa	3.50
60401	Ray Harford	Blackburn Rovers	3.00
60501	Tommy Burns	Celtic	4.00
60601	Ruud Gullit	Chelsea	2.50
60701	Ron Atkinson	Coventry City	1.50
60801	Jim Smith	Derby County	0.75
60901	Billy Kirkwood	Dundee United	0.50
61001	Bert Paton	Dunfermline	0.50
61101	Joe Royle	Everton	3.00
61201	Jim Jefferies	Hearts	2.00
61301	Alex Miller	Hibernian	1.00
61401	Alex Totten	Kilmarnock	0.75
61501	Howard Wilkinson	Leeds United	2.00
61601	Martin O'Neill	Leicester City	0.50
61701	Roy Evans	Liverpool	4.50
61801	Alex Ferguson	Manchester United	5.00
61901	Bryan Robson	Middlesbrough	2.00
62001	Alex McLeish	Motherwell	1.50
62101	Kevin Keegan	Newcastle United	4.50
62201	Frank Clark	Nottingham Forest	2.50
62301	Jimmy Thomson	Raith Rovers	0.50
62401	Walter Smith	Rangers	5.00
62501	David Pleat	Sheffield Wed	1.50
62601	Graeme Souness	Southampton	0.50
62701	Peter Reid	Sunderland	0.50
62801	Gerry Francis	Tottenham Hotspur	3.00
62901	Harry Redknapp	West Ham United	2.00
63001	Joe Kinnear	Wimbledon	1.00

FOOTBALL

Underdogs carrying Welsh hopes in Europe

By Our Sports Staff

IT WAS not Pelé's finest hour. From Santos and Brazil and the World Cup to a fictional field somewhere in Europe and Sylvester Stallone in goal. *Escape to Victory*. A football fairy tale that went wrong somewhere twixt bright idea and the cutting room.

It was a non-starter, too fanciful to ring true, and, in a sensible world, it would never have been repeated. Nobody would fall for something like that again. Only this is not a sensible world and they — that is, everybody — has.

The storyline is simple. A small village team, from a very small village, rises from its middle-of-nowhere league in a ridiculously short period of time to win the national cup final. Then, even better, it takes on the might of Europe. Oh yes, the village and its team have a very silly name that hardly anybody can say. Welcome to the story of Llansantffraid-ym-Mechain.

Tonight, Llansantffraid, population 954, Welsh Cup-holders, take on Ruch Chorzow, 14 times the Polish league champions and present Polish Cup-holders. In a perfect world, they would be doing so at Llansantffraid's homely Recreation Ground, little more than a school playing field, but sadly, in the sole concession to reality and safety regulations, they will meet in the first leg of their Cup Winners' Cup preliminary-round tie at the Racecourse Ground, Wrexham, a few miles away. Obviously, the Welsh think they can win.

"So much has happened to us in such a short time that nobody would bet against us getting a result against the Poles. We know next to nothing about them and it is a fair assumption they know just as little about us. We are going to have a look at them tonight on a video which has been sent to us by a friend in Europe, but I don't suppose they will have seen us." So says Graham Breeze, team manager and local newspaper editor.

They hope for a crowd, too. "You can usually count our supporters on match days just by looking around the field. We don't often get more than a couple of hundred, but they are all very keen and they will all be at the Racecourse Ground, along with, hopefully, a lot of new fans who will cheer us on as the reprsentatives of Wales. We are going to relish our few hours of fame. Welsh language television has made a documentary about us, we've had lots of inquiries about sponsorship and commercial backing and we will be wearing a local firm's logo on our shirts." Breeze again.

All of which is a long way from the Montgomeryshire Amateur League, where Llansantffraid were languishing six years ago. Since then, under Breeze's guidance, the club has risen steadily, culminating in a thrilling Welsh Cup success last spring, when Barry Town, already crowned champions of Wales, were beaten in a penalty shoot-out at Cardiff Arms Park. Chorzow, five internationals *et al*, are next on the agenda.

Tommy Morgan, 39, carries the bulk of Llansantffraid's hopes. He scored 27 goals last season and was offered a move to a club in South Korea until he told them his age. The captain, Gary Evans, will pull the strings in midfield and while his brother, Ian, is injured, there are the Whelan twins, John and Chris, in the squad. And four Joneses. If only one player comes from the village itself, no matter.

"It is a good team with a great spirit and everybody in the village treats them as their own," Breeze said. "What's happened is a bit of a fairy tale and we are enjoying it, but it will be strictly serious business when the game starts."

MANUEL BRUQUE

Romario, the Brazil striker, signs autographs after being introduced to fans of his new club, Valencia, of Spain

RUGBY LEAGUE: WORLD CUP INCENTIVE FOR SCOTS AND IRISH

Lindsay backs five nations' format

Christopher Irvine reports on attempts to spread rugby league north of the border

ON THE day that space scientists grappled with the mysteries of a meteorite fossil from Mars, several hundred people in Glasgow got to grips on Tuesday night with something just as alien to them. Rugby league is not quite so primitive, but it is life not as a Scottish sporting public knows it. To some, Partick Thistle was an apt choice as launch pad. The football club, a piggy-in-the-middle in the Old Firm divide, has been the butt of Glasgow comedians' jokes longer than the 101 years rugby league has been around.

The official 1,147 attendance for the first Scotland v Ireland international on home soil looked to have been swelled by the Kinning Park Pipe Band and the mob-handed Rugby Football League (RFL) party, but it is a start. The RFL is anxious to build on it and, possibly, create a Super League club north of the border at some point.

In the shorter term, Maurice Lindsay, the RFL chief executive, was sufficiently impressed with Scotland's 26-6 victory and the Firhill ground for him to propose entering both Scotland and Ireland in the World Cup in 14 months' time and giving them home advantage, in which case a five nations' tournament would be a natural development next summer.

"If we have a five nations, obviously it would be compared with the rugby union version and be written up as a poor relation, because we'll have smaller crowds," Lindsay said. "I don't care. I think we have to start. Nobody in the previous 100 years began one, so all I would be doing is starting one for the next 100 years."

Rugby league's previous appearance in Glasgow, in 1909, coincided with another crisis over money in rugby union. That year, Scotland cancelled the Calcutta Cup because England had approved a three shilling allowance to the first All Blacks. Reports about the match were generally favourable, but one concluded that Scotland's conversion to the northern union game was as remote as Jewish conversion to Christianity.

The Glasgow Black Eagles were grounded in 1953 by the governing body before the team even took off. Three amateur sides — Forth and Clyde, Stirling University and RAF Kinloss — is a minute base for Graeme Thompson to work on. But, from his position on the left wing, the newly installed Scottish development officer was filled with encouragement.

"The best selling point is seeing a match and word spreading by mouth," Thompson said. "There were four or five Scottish flags being waved. Next time it'll be 20 — and so on. And that's before we've started our initiative in schools."

The term 'five nations' more accurately describes the cosmopolitan make-up of the two pro-am teams on Tuesday. If Scotland are to improve, they will require a few more English, Australian and New Zealand players with Scottish antecedence.

SPORT IN BRIEF

Wasps optimistic of signing Tuigamala

THE prospect of another leading Wigan rugby league player gracing rugby union's Courage Clubs championship strengthened yesterday when officials at Wasps rated as better-than-even the chances of Va'aiga Tuigamala joining them (David Hands writes). Tuigamala has been linked with Bath, as have his Wigan colleagues Henry Paul and Andy Farrell, but as a former New Zealand international, the black strip of Wasps would be a more fitting reminder of his union origins.

"Like all leading clubs we have spoken to many available players and Tuigamala has been among them," Malcolm Sinclair, the Wasps team manager, said, "but nothing is signed or sealed yet." Tuigamala, a wing for the All Blacks but centre with Wigan, may, like Martin Offiah, seek to play both codes.

☐ Warrington have dropped Iestyn Harris, who is on the transfer list for a world-record £1.35m, for their last three Stones Super League games of the season. Harris, 20, has been linked with Saracens, Llanelli, and Cardiff.

Coaching role for Bates

TENNIS: Jeremy Bates, 35, who announced his retirement at this year's Wimbledon, is to take up a coaching position with the Lawn Tennis Association next week. The former British No 1 will become a member of David Felgate's national training and coaching team. "Having spent 15 years on the circuit and several under the spotlight as the leading British hope at Wimbledon, I believe I can help our best players deal with the preparations for and pressures of international tennis," Bates said.

☐ Greg Rusedski, of Britain, won the first set against Jim Courier, the world No 9, in the second round of the ATP Tour Championship in Mason, Ohio, but his serving then became erratic and Courier recovered to win 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Divers stage boycott

DIVING: Britain's leading divers have refused to compete at the European junior championships, which start in Copenhagen today, because of a dispute between rival governing bodies (Craig Lord writes). The GB Diving Federation, which has for three years operated in opposition to the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain (ASFGB), the traditional governing body, had selected 13 divers. However, the ASFGB said that only nine could go because some were affiliated only to the diving federation.

Welcome success

EQUESTRIANISM: Harry Marshall, the Northern Ireland veteran, riding Velvisto, won the Kerrygold Welcome Stakes, the opening event at the Dublin International Horse Show, yesterday. He cut every possible corner in a jump-off to record the fastest clear round, ahead of Eimer Gundel, of Germany, on Argot. Michel Robert, of France, on Alligator Fontaine, beat Nick Skelton, riding the appropriately-named Quick Star, into second place in the Kerrygold Speed Stakes.

May calls it a day

CRICKET: Tim May, the former Australia Test off spinner, has retired from the game, aged 34. May, whose last Test appearance was against England in Sydney 18 months ago, is understood to be planning to spend more time on his business interests. He took 75 wickets in 24 Tests, with personal bests of five for nine and 42 not out.

☐ Gerry Gomez, who played in 29 Test matches for West Indies, captaining the side against England in Trinidad in 1948, has died at the age of 76.

FOR THE RECORD

ATHLETICS

SESTRIERE: International meeting: Men: 100m: 1, B Surin (Can) 10.17sec; 2, L Christie (GB) 10.29; 3, O Ezinwa (Nigeria) 10.30. 400m: 1, D Kamoga (Uga) 45.70; 2, A Nuti (It) 45.97, 3, A Aimar (It) 46.29. 3,000m: 1, L Kipkosgei (Ken) 8min 8.26sec; 2, D Kisang (Ken) 8:08.38; 3, S Chemoywo (Ken) 8:11.30. 110m hurdles: 1, A Johnson (US) 13.25sec, 2, R Kingdom (US) 13.43; 3, C Jackson (GB) 13.49. 400m hurdles: 1, S Matete (Zam) 49.03. 2, K Hamden (Zim) 50.24. 3, P Bellino (It) 50.34. Long jump: 1, J Greene (US) 8.46m. 2, E Walder (US) 8.35, 3, C Tidiane Toure (Senegal) 8.34. Triple jump: 1, J Edwards (GB) 17.67m; 2, B Wellman (Berm) 17.53; 3, M Conley (US) 16.43. Pole vault: 1, S Huffman (US) 5.70m; 2, K Tarpenning (US) 5.60, 3, P Bochkaryov (Russ) 5.40. Shot: 1, R Barnes (US) 21.65m; 2, J Godina (US) 21.08; 3, P dal Soglio (It) 19.99. Women: 100m: 1, N Voronova (Russ) 11.45sec; 2, J Cuthbert (Jam) 11.55, 3, G Galina (It) 11.84. 400m: 1, S Richards (Jam) 51.34; 2, V de Angeli (It) 51.75, 3, P Spuri (It) 52.30. 100m hurdles: 1, Y Graudyn (Russ) 13.23; 2, C Tuzzi (It) 13.36; 3, T Lawson (US) 13.50. 400m hurdles: 1, R Edeh (Can) 54.97. 2, S Smith (Ire) 55.30, 3, A Knoroz (Russ) 56.76. Long jump: 1, L Ninova (Austria) 6.84m; 2, C Gerhardt (Ger) 6.76, 3, F May (It) 6.74

BASEBALL

NATIONAL LEAGUE: Chicago 3 New York 0; Cincinnati 3 San Francisco 2; Los Angeles 3 Pittsburgh 1, Atlanta 10 Philadelphia 4, San Diego 1 St Louis 0; Montreal 7 Houston 5, Colorado 11 Florida 0.

AMERICAN LEAGUE: Boston 3 Toronto 2; Texas 4 Detroit 2; New York 9 Chicago 2; Kansas City 9 Oakland 2; Baltimore 13 Milwaukee 3; Minnesota 4 California 1; Cleveland 4 Seattle 3

BOWLS

ROYAL LEAMINGTON SPA: Women's world outdoor championships: Pairs: Eighth round: Group one: Zimbabwe bt Hong Kong 19-18; Cook Islands bt Spain 27-19; Wales (A Dainton and R Jones) bt Swaziland 21-12; South Africa bt Zambia 19-11; Norfolk Island bt Israel 20-19; Ireland (P Nolan and M Johnston) bt Namibia 30-12; Papua New Guinea bt Japan 41-12, Argentina bt Holland 27-13. Group two: Scotland (J Forrest and J Lindores) bt Singapore 28-7; Malaysia bt India 38-12; United States bt England (G Fitzgerald and N Shaw) 18-16; New Zealand bt Botswana 24-18; Canada bt Guernsey (J and A Simon) 23-10; Fiji bt Western Samoa 21-18; Jersey (J Jones and S Syvret) drew with Kenya 15-15. Ninth round: Group one: South Africa bt Japan 20-13; Zambia bt Israel 18-16, Hong Kong drew with Papua New Guinea 16-16; Argentina bt Namibia 28-14; Ireland bt Wales 21-16, Norfolk Island bt Holland 35-5, Swaziland bt Cook Islands 21-14; Zimbabwe bt Spain 26-18. Group two: England bt Malaysia 22-12, Guernsey bt New Zealand 28-22, Canada bt Western Samoa 22-16; Fiji bt Kenya 32-9; United States bt Jersey 28-15, Australia bt Scotland 31-18; Singapore bt India 28-12. Tenth round: Group one: Holland bt Japan 30-17; Namibia bt Wales 20-17; Ireland bt Cook Islands 26-18; Norfolk Island bt Swaziland 16-14; Papua New Guinea bt Zimbabwe 23-18; Zambia bt Spain 18-15, South Africa bt Israel 26-11; Argentina bt Hong Kong 25-15. Group two: Fiji bt Scotland 15-14; Kenya bt US 22-13; Jersey bt Malaysia 20-19, Canada bt England 21-15; Singapore bt Australia 22-20; New Zealand drew with India 14-14, Guernsey bt Botswana 18-14. Triples: Eighth round: Group one: South Africa bt Canada 25-11; Cook Islands bt Singapore 23-19; Namibia bt Guernsey (J Merrel, J Nicolle, S Paul) 14-13; England (W Line, J Baker, M Price) bt Fiji 26-7; United States bt Spain 19-15, Swaziland bt Malaysia 20-14; Scotland (M Letham, B Forsyth, S Gourlay) bt Zambia 23-10. Group two: Botswana bt Ireland (P Mackle, H Taylor, C O'Gorman) 21-8, Norfolk Island bt Holland 18-9; Australia bt Jersey (S Noel, K Horman, V Stead) 17-11; Argentina bt Wales (A Sutherland, J Watson, B Morgan) 18-9. Hong Kong bt Japan 26-5; India bt Western Samoa 20-16; Papua New Guinea bt New Zealand 17-14. Ninth round: Group one: Cook Islands bt Guernsey 20-9; England bt Spain 20-12. Malaysia bt US 20-16. Swaziland bt Zambia 19-17, Scotland bt Namibia 23-20. South Africa bt Kenya 24-13. Canada bt Singapore 20-13. Group two: Jersey bt Holland 37-5, Wales bt Japan 32-8. Western Samoa bt Hong Kong 18-12; Papua New Guinea bt India 16-13. Australia bt New Zealand 24-15; Israel bt Ireland 19-14, Botswana bt Norfolk Island 13-12. Tenth round: Group one. South Africa bt Swaziland 25-15; Namibia bt Zambia 26-14. Cook Islands bt Scotland 22-11. Guernsey bt United States 19-17. Kenya drew with Canada 18-18. England bt Singapore 32-10. Fiji bt Spain 25-12. Group two: Ireland bt India 16-11. Australia bt Papua New Guinea 29-10; New Zealand bt Holland 30-8. Hong Kong bt Jersey 14-12; Israel bt Botswana 21-13. Wales drew with Norfolk Island 14-14; Argentina bt Japan 23-9

CRICKET

MINOR COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP (final day of two) **Bury St Edmunds:** Lincolnshire 238-5 and 203-6 (M A Fell 51, T E Parker 4-73); Suffolk 197 and 213-8 (A J Squire 75, S Oakes 4-51). Suffolk drew with Lincolnshire. **Lakenham:** Hertfordshire 261-4 and 174-8 (C A S Abraham 63). Norfolk 192 and 244-9 (T J Boon 115, D R Thomas 52; D Sundge 4-58). Norfolk won by one wicket. (first day of two) **Wardown Park, Luton:** Cambridgeshire 227 (N T Gadsby 73, R P Merriman 52; Z A Sher 5-52). Bedfordshire 209 (W Larkins 109, A Akhtar 4-69). **Bovey Tracey:** Devon 270-4 (N A Folland 127, G T J Townsend 59, A M Small 54 not out) and 13-0. Wiltshire 239-5 (D A Winter 62). **St Austell:** Cornwall v Shropshire. No play, rain

SECOND XI CHAMPIONSHIP (second day of three). **Worcester:** Worcestershire 393-9 (M J Church 102, J T Ralph 53). Yorkshire 154-3 (R A Kettleborough 56 not out). **Seaton Carew:** Durham 406 (J I Longley 128, D A Blenkiron 92). Lancashire 169-7. **Studley:** Warwickshire 524-5 dec (M J Powell 210, M A Wagh 115, M A Sheikh 102); Somerset 300-3 dec (H Morgan 110 not out, S C Ecclestone 89). **Harrow:** Middlesex 309-9 dec (D J Goodchild 91, J P Hewitt 66, P E Wellings 54; J B Thompson 4-88) and 123-3 (O A Shah 55, A J Strauss 51 not out). Kent 300-5 dec (N R Taylor 102 not out, J A Ford 67). **The Oval:** Northamptonshire 384-6 dec (A J Swann 174, A R Roberts 87, K J Innes 50). Surrey 182 and 230-4 (A W Smith 81, I J Ward 56, J A North 50 not out). **Nottingham High School:** Leicestershire 330-5 dec; Nottinghamshire 407-8 (G F Archer 141, C M Tolley 117, G Welton 52 not out). **Bournemouth:** Hampshire 360-7 dec (G W White 152, L J Botham 53) and 48-1; Sussex (A D Edwards 52 not out).

EQUESTRIANISM

BALLSBRIDGE: Royal Dublin Horse Show: Kerrygold Welcome Stakes: 1, Velvisto (H Marshall, Ire) clear round, 36.84sec; 2, Argot (E Gundel, Ger) clear, 38.39; 3, Iller (G Dominici, It) clear, 40.12; 8, Elton (M Whitaker, GB) 4faults, 37.34. Kerrygold Speed Stakes: 1, Alligator Fontaine (M Robert, Fr) 62.16; 2, Quick Star (N Skelton, GB) 62.94; 3, Diamond Explosion (F Connors, Ire) 63.43; 7, Randi (J Whitaker, GB) 8, 69.19.

FOOTBALL

UEFA CUP: Qualifying round, first leg: Budapest Vasutas 3 Barry Town 1; Tbilisi (Geo) 2 Molde FK (Nor) 1; HJK Helsinki 2 Chernomorets Odessa (Ukr) 2; Dynamo Moscow 1 Jazz (Fin) 1; Heraklis Thessaloniki (Gr) 0 Apoel Nicosia (Cyp) 1; Zagreb (Cro) 3 Spartak Moscow 1; Hajduk Split (Cro) 1 Torpedo Moscow 0; Aarau (Switz) 4 Lantana 0 (Est); Akranes (Ice) 0 CSKA Moscow 2; Slovan Bratislava (Slovakia) 2 Trabzonspor (Tur) 1; Casino Graz (Austria) 2 Vojvodina Novi (Yug) 0, Partizan Belgrade (Yug) 0 National Bucharest 0; Dynamo Minsk 2 Besiktas (Tur) 1; Legia Warsaw 3 Haka Valkeakoski (Fin) 0; Halmstad BK (Swe) 0 Vardar (Mac) 0; Betar Jerusalem (Isr) 1 FK Bodo/Glimt (Nor) 5; Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyp) 1 Neuchatel Xamax (Switz) 2; Skonto Riga (Lat) 0 Malmo (Swe) 3. Sliema (Malta) 0 Odense (Den) 2; Helsingborg (Swe) 1 Dynamo 93 Minsk (Belo) 1

INTERTOTO CUP: Second round, first leg: Standard Liège (Bel) 1 Karlsruhe (Ger) 0; Rotor Volgograd (Russ) 2 Guingamp (Fr) 1; Segesta Sisak (Cro) 1 Silkeborg (Den) 2.

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Gretna 3 Carlisle United 5, Bristol City 1 Bristol Rovers 0; Bromsgrove Rovers 1 Hereford United 2; Fulham 0 Queens Park Rangers 1; Inter Cable-Tel 1 Cardiff City 1; Millwall 0 Liverpool 0; Rotherham United 0 Bolton Wanderers 1, Rushden and Diamonds 3 Arsenal 1; Scunthorpe United 0 Barnsley 2; Watford 1 Oxford United 0; Wolverhampton Wanderers 2 SV Hamburg 3; Wycombe Wanderers 1 Southampton 0; Leek Town 0 Crewe Alexandra 3; Wigan Athletic 2 Coventry City 2; Northampton Town 0 Ipswich Town 0; Port Vale 0 Wimbledon 1 (abandoned after 34 minutes, storm). Preston North End 2 West Bromwich Albion 2, Wrexham 3 Everton 4; Newmarket Town 4 Gillingham 1; Kingstonian 1 Crystal Palace 2; Walsall 1 Birmingham City 1

ARGENTINIAN LEAGUE: Lanus 0 Deportivo Español 1; Velez Sarsfield 4 San Lorenzo 1; Huracan 2 Platense 2; Gimnasia Jujuy 0 Ferro Carril Oeste 1

GOLF

FORMBY: British girls Open amateur championship: Leading qualifiers: 142: M Estrada (Sp) 69, 73. 145: V Zorzi (It) 76, 79. 146: A Mesquen (Fr) 70, 76. 147: K Icher (Fr) 75, 72; E Weeks (Bramshott Hill) 72, 75. 148: R Hudson (Wheatley) 75, 73; M Prieto (Sp) 75, 73. S Cnquelion (Fr) 74, 74, M Beautell (Sp) 74, 74; P Marti (Sp) 74, 74, E Nardi (It) 72, 76; C Vagner (Den) 70, 78. 149: M Bendevis (Den) 74, 75, K Taylor (Sandford Springs) 72, 77. 150: V Laing (Musselburgh) 77, 73; L Moffat (West Kilbride) 77, 73; M Monnet (Fr) 76, 74; C Ekelundh (Swe) 74, 76; J Krantz (Swe) 72, 78. 151: K Stark (Brynhill) 76, 75. 152: C Hanson (Den) 78, 74; G Sergas (It) 75, 77; C Laurens (Fr) 75, 77. 153: M Cosenza (It) 76, 77. L Walters (Chevin) 76, 77; C Hunter (Deeside) 74, 79, U Bolin (Swe) 74, 79; A Spani (Fr) 79, 75; C Court (Goodwood) 79, 75, F More (Chesterfield) 76, 78; L Meredith (Reading) 74, 80. First round: Estrada bt R Pozza (It) 2 and 1; Monnet bt Moffat 2 and 1. Cosenza bt Beautell 1 hole; L Walters (Chevin) bt Cnquelion 2 holes; Weeks bt Spani 2 and 1; Hansen bt Vagner 7 and 6. Bendevis bt Stark 3 and 1; Icher bt Court 2 holes; More bt Mesquen 3 and 2; Krantz bt Taylor 2 and 1; Sergas (It) bt Nardi (It) 1 hole; Hudson bt Bolin 6 and 5, Hunter bt Prieto 2 holes; Laurens bt Marti 1 hole; Ekelundh bt Laing 1 hole; Meredith bt V Zorzi (It) 4 and 2. Second round: Monnet bt Estrada 4 and 3; Cosenza bt Walters 3 and 2. Hansen bt Weeks 5 and 4; Icher bt Bendevis 1 hole. More bt Krantz 3 and 2. Sergas bt Hudson 5 and 4; Laurens bt Hunter 3 and 2; Ekelundh bt Meredith 2 and 1

REAL TENNIS

HOBART, Tasmania: Australian Open: Second round (Australia unless stated): R Fahey bt A Micklebourough 6-1, 6-2, 6-0; B MacFarlane bt P Tabley 6-2, 6-3, 6-5; N Filippelli bt S Virgona 6-2, 6-2, 6-0, N Wood (GB) bt M Devine (GB) 6-5, 6-1, 6-5, J Snow (GB) bt P Mears 6-4, 6-1, 6-0

ROWING

STRATHCLYDE: World championships: Junior first round races: Men. Coxed fours (first three to semi-finals) Qualifiers: Heat one: Poland 6min 25sec; Slovenia 6:29; Croatia 6:30. Heat two: Italy 6:28; Germany 6:30; Australia 6:30. Heat three: Romania 6:21, France 6:25, Spain 6:28 (Great Britain 6:36 to repechage). Coxless fours (first three to semi-finals) Qualifiers: Heat one. Slovenia 6:30; Poland 6:23, Czech Republic 6:24. Heat two. Italy 6:13; Germany 6:15, Great Britain 6:15. Heat three: France 6:20; Croatia 6:27, Spain 6:30. Sculls (winners to semi-finals) Heat one: Hungary 7:12. Heat two: Greece 7:02. Heat three: Germany 7:12. Heat four: Russia 7:08 (no Great Britain entry). Coxed pairs (winner to final) Qualifiers: Germany 7.19; Russia 7.14 (Great Britain 7:23 go to repechage). Coxless pairs (winners to semi-finals) Heat one: France 6:47. Heat two: Germany 6:40. Heat three: Croatia 6:51 (Great Britain 7:04 go to repechage). Double sculls (winners to semi-finals) Heat one: Yugoslavia 6:36. Heat two: Switzerland 6:36. Heat three: Australia 6:36. Heat four: Sweden 6:36. Heat five: Slovenia 6:40. Heat six: United States 6:39 (Great Britain 6:44 to repechage). Quad sculls (winners to semi-finals): Heat one: Italy 6:06. Heat two: Denmark 6:00. Heat three: Germany 6:09. Heat four: France 6:03 (Great Britain 6:08 go to repechage). Eights (winners to final) Heat one: Russia 5:53.52. Heat two: Romania 5:41 (Great Britain 5:53.54 go to repechage). Women: Coxless pairs (winners to final): Heat one: Russia 7:34. Heat two: Germany 7:33 (Great Britain 7:49 go to repechage). Coxless fours (winners to final). Heat one: Russia 6:51. Heat two: Great Britain 7:00. Sculls (winners to semi-finals) Heat one: Germany 7:50. Heat two: Slovenia 7:46. Heat three: Lithuania 8:08 (No Great Britain entry). Double sculls (first three to semi-finals): Heat one: Italy 7:21, Austria 7:21, Poland 7:25. Heat two: Germany 7:29; Australia 7:31, China 7:31. Heat three: France 7:25, Greece 7:29; Holland 7:36 (Great Britain 7:45 go to repechage). Quad sculls (winners to final) Heat one: Germany 6:43. Heat two. Holland 6:44 (Great Britain 6:50 go to repechage). Senior repechages: Men's lightweight sculls (qualifiers for semi-final): Repechage one: Slovakia 7:05, France 7:06. Repechage two: Finland 7:09; Italy 7:09. Repechage three: Estonia 7:09; Great Britain (Long) 7:13. Repechage four: Spain 7:14; Germany 7:14. Men's lightweight coxless pairs (qualifiers for semi-finals) Great Britain (Keys and Brown) 6:49, Hungary 6:50, Spain 6:50. Women's lightweight sculls (qualifiers for semi-finals) Repechage one: Holland 7:56, Romania 8:00; Germany 8:01. Repechage two: Denmark 7:53, Canada 8:04; Hong Kong 8:06. Repechage three: Hungary 7:58, Great Britain (Appelboom) 8:02, Croatia 8:04. Men's coxed fours (qualifiers for semi-finals) Holland 6:20, Poland 6:23; Belorussia 6:24 (Great Britain already qualified). Men's lightweight quad (qualifiers for semi-finals): New Zealand 6:01, Russia 6:04, Spain 6:05 (Great Britain already qualified)

RUGBY LEAGUE

INTERNATIONAL MATCH: Scotland 26 Ireland 6 (at Partick Thistle FC)

RUGBY UNION

TOUR MATCH: Boland 21 New Zealand XV 32 (at Worcester, South Africa)

SQUASH

MELBOURNE: Australian Women's Open (Australia unless stated) Semi-finals: M Martin bt C Jackman (Eng) 9-3, 9-5, 10-8, S Fitzgerald bt C Owens 9-8, 9-3, 9-1

TENNIS

MASON, Ohio: Men's tournament (US unless stated): First round: W Ferreira (SA) bt F Dewulf (Bel) 6-2, 6-3, P Rafter (Aus) bt S Bruguera (Sp) 6-1, 6-4, M Washington bt G Raoux (Fr) 6-4, 7-5, C Pioline (Fr) bt S Stolle (Aus) 2-6, 6-3, 6-4; A Medvedev (Ukr) bt M Damm (Cz) 6-4, 7-6, W Kowalski (Pol) bt N Kulti (Swe) 3-6, 7-5, 6-3, J Bjorkman (Swe) bt R Furlan (It) 6-3, 7-6, S Edberg (Swe) bt S Pescosolido (It) 6-2, 6-1, M Larsson (Swe) bt S Matsuoka (Japan) 3-6, 7-6, 6-2. Second round: P Sampras (US) bt J Hlasek (Switz) 6-3, 6-4; J Courier (US) bt G Rusedski (GB) 6-7, 6-3, 6-4

MARIA LANKOWITZ, Austria: Women's tournament: First round: C Cristea (Rom) bt M Schnell (Austria) 6-1, 0-6, 6-0, L Cenkova (Cz) bt J Wiesner (Austria) 6-4, 7-6; B Paulus (Austria) bt A Montolio (Sp) 6-0, 4-6, 6-4. Second round: S de Ville (Bel) bt H Nagyova (Slovakia) 7-6, 6-3, S Talaja (Cro) bt M Zivec-Skulj (Ger) 6-1, 6-2.

MONTREAL: Women's tournament (US unless stated): First round: L McNeil bt S Farina (It) 6-3, 6-7, 7-5; Y Basuki (Indo) bt Shi-Ting Wang (Taiwan) 6-2, 7-5, F Labat (Arg) bt M Paz (Arg) 6-1, 6-1, Sung-Hee Park (S Kor) bt M Werdel Witmeyer 6-4, 6-2; N Baudone (It) bt G Pizzichini (It) 6-1, 6-4; J Capriati bt I Spirlea (Rom) 6-4, 6-2; V Ruano-Pascual (Sp) bt H Sukova (Cz) 7-5, 3-6, 6-4. Second round: M Seles bt K Studenikova (Slovenia) 6-2, 6-0; M Pierce (Fr) bt E Makarova (Russ) 2-6, 6-3, 6-3, M Maleeva (Bul) bt L Raymond 6-4, 6-3, N Kijimuta (Japan) bt B Schultz-McCarthy (Holl) 6-7, 6-1, 6-2

SOUTHSEA: LTA Summer satellite tournament (GB unless stated): Men: First round: A Foster bt V Sundaram 6-0, 6-4, C Henderson bt S Heckmans (Ger) 6-2, 7-5, D Ward bt J Alven (Swe) 7-5, 6-3; D Lobb bt G Burnett (US) 6-3, 7-6, J Fox bt M Boulding 6-0, 1-6, 6-2; N Weal bt L Bourgeois (Aus) 7-6, 7-6, D Roberts (SA) bt J Foxon 6-2, 3-6, 6-3; M Wyeth bt C Snell (Aus) 7-6, 6-3; M Lee bt J Delgado 6-3, 6-3. Second round: T Spinks bt M Hill (Aus) 6-3, 3-6, 6-2, G Henderson bt A Foster 6-4, 7-5, A Hunt (NZ) bt T Hilderbrand (Swe) 4-6, 6-1, 6-2; P Hand bt S Pendor 6-4, 7-6; D Ward bt D Lobb 6-3, 6-2; N Weal bt J Fox 6-4, 6-3; D Roberts (SA) bt L Vosloo (SA) 6-2, 6-4; M Lee bt M Wyeth 6-1, 4-6, 6-1. Women: First round: T Samara (US) bt J Wood 7-6, 6-4; H Matthews bt K Roubanova (Russ) 1-6, 6-2, 6-2; A Janes bt L Jansson (Fin) 7-5, 6-3; M Marfina (Russ) bt S Munro (Aus) 7-6, 6-1, R Hutchins bt N Egorova (Russ) 7-5, 6-2; L Ahl bt T Callow 6-0, 6-2; J Dawson bt L Ogan 6-1, 7-6, D Aksit (Tur) bt T Buchheim (Ger) 6-2, 6-4, S Siddall bt L Howes (HK) 6-2, 6-2

Second round: T Samara (US) bt H Matthews 4-6, 6-3, 6-2, A Janes bt F Hearn 6-0, 6-3; L Woodroffe bt A Jenson (Aus) 6-3, 6-4; C Watson (Aus) bt L Latimer 6-3, 6-3, L Scardigno (Aus) bt M Marfina (Russ) 6-3, 3-6, 7-5, V Davies bt R Hutchins 6-0, 6-4, L Ahl bt J Dawson 6-1, 6-2

POOLS DIVIDENDS

LITTLEWOODS: Treble chance: 24pts £1,069,026, 23 £2,902.35, 22 £163.70, 21 £24.10, 20 £5.15. Four draws £19.55. Ten homes £53.15. Six aways £147.65. **Vernons:** Treble chance: Possible points 24, no client with 24 points. 23pts £9,333.05, 22 £104.15, 21 £10.70, 20 £2.45. 12 homes (paid on 11 correct) £22.20. 10 aways £497,000. **Zetters.** Treble chance: 24pts £36,679.35, 23 £281.55, 22 £18.65, 21 £2.00 (stakes to one ninth of a penny). Four draws (nothing barred) £16.00. Eight homes (nothing barred) £6.00. Six aways £20.80. Lucky numbers 21 37 4 35 20 19

TODAY'S FIXTURES

CRICKET

Second Cornhill Test match

11.0, first day of five, 90 overs minimum

HEADINGLEY: England v Pakistan

Britannic Assurance county championship

11.0, first day of four, 104 overs minimum

SWANSEA: Glamorgan v Leicestershire

SOUTHAMPTON: Hampshire v Gloucestershire

NORTHAMPTON: Northamptonshire v Kent

TRENT BRIDGE: Nottinghamshire v Middlesex

TAUNTON: Somerset v Essex

HOVE: Sussex v Derbyshire

EDGBASTON: Warwickshire v Durham

11.0, second day of four, 104 overs minimum

SOUTHPORT: Lancashire v Surrey

FOOTBALL

Kick-off 7.30 unless stated

European Cup Winners' Cup
Qualifying round, first leg

Glentoran v Sparta Prague (at The Oval, Belfast)
Llansantffraid v Ruch Chorzow (at Wrexham FC)
Red Star Belgrade v Hearts (5.30)
Shelbourne v FK Brann (7.45)

Scottish League Challenge Cup
First round

Dundee v Stenhousemuir
Hamilton v St Mirren

PRE-SEASON MATCHES: Bromley v Charlton; Cardiff v Tottenham; Cheltenham v Stoke, Exeter v Manchester City (7.45). Gala Fairydean v Carlisle; Oxford United v Southampton (7.45); Scunthorpe v Lincoln United, Bishop's Stortford v VS Rugby

OTHER SPORT

BOWLS: Women's world outdoor championships (at Leamington Spa).

CYCLING: Sky Sports grand prix (at Glasgow).

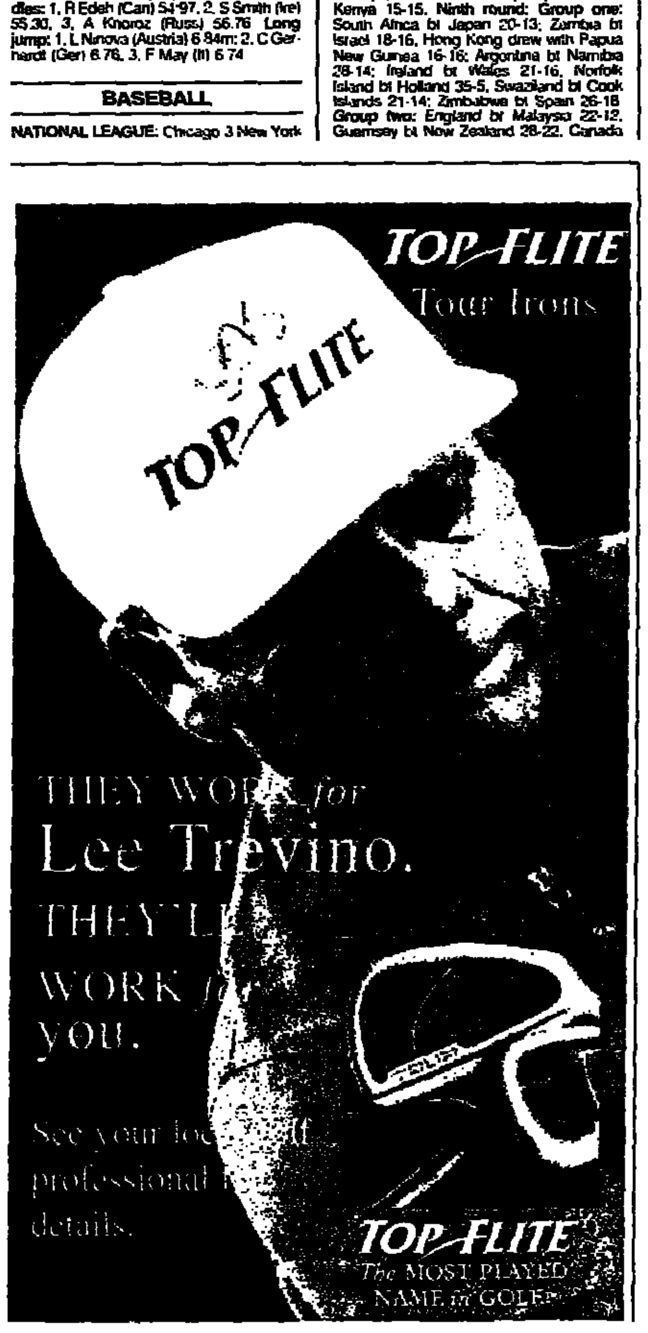
EQUESTRIANISM: Royal Dublin horse show (at Ballsbridge).

GOLF: McDonald's WPGA championship (at Gleneagles).

ROWING: World championships (at Strathclyde)

SAILING: Skandia Life Cowes week.

SPEEDWAY: Premier League: London v Swindon (7.30); Middlesbrough v Belle Vue (7.30); Sheffield v Peterborough (7.45).



Will this be Monty's fairway to heaven?

(Colin to go all the way: 20/1.)

TO WIN THE US PGA

Valhalla. Starts today. Live coverage on Sky.

12/1	N. Faldo	33/1	M. Brooks
14/1	E. Els	33/1	D. Duval
14/1	G. Norman	33/1	S. Elkington
16/1	F. Couples	33/1	J. Leonard
20/1	T. Lehman	33/1	M. McCumber
20/1	P. Mickelson	33/1	V. Singh
20/1	C. Montgomerie	33/1	S. Stricker
20/1	C. Pavin	40/1	B. Faxon
25/1	J. Cook	40/1	J. Maggert
25/1	S. Hoch	40/1	N. Price
25/1	D. Love III	40/1	I. Woosnam
25/1	M. O'Meara	50/1	W. Austin

E/W one-quarter the odds a place 1,2,3,4. Other prices on request. Non-starter - no bet. Ladbrokes golf rules apply

FORECAST THE FIRST TWO HOME

'96 US Masters Again.	'96 US Open 1,2.	'96 Open Revisited.
N. Faldo (12/1) G Norman (14/1) Dual Forecast odds 95/1	S. Jones (100/1) D. Love III (25/1) Dual Forecast odds 1,150/1	T. Lehman (20/1) E. Els (14/1) Dual Forecast odds 155/1

All Dual Forecast examples priced at current odds. If more than two players involved in a play-off, all those players, bar outright winner, deemed to have tied for 2nd place. These prices may have changed since this newspaper was printed. For the very latest prices, page Ladbrokes Teletext 605/6/7 (Ch4).

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JULIAN MUSCAT

On a jockey enjoying an impressive run

When Michael Hills embarked on this, his seventeenth season as a jockey, he had to look abroad for his career highlight: winning the Irish 1,000 Guineas on Nicer. Within a whirlwind seven-week period, initiated when Shaamit coasted to victory in the Derby, Hills had upgraded that achievement on three separate occasions. It could not have happened to a nicer guy.

That Hills should be writing the headlines tells a story in itself. The jockey's renaissance has coincided with a wider distribution of the season's top prizes. His alliances with William Haggas and Geoff Wragg, a pair of talented yet underrated trainers, has paid handsome dividends in a year when the bigger battalions lack strength in depth. But sweetest of all has been the enthusiasm with which Hills has embraced his success.

That trait was best illustrated when he jousted with Lanfranco Dettori, live on television, in the afterglow of Pentire's glittering victory in the King George VI and Queen Elizabeth Diamond Stakes.

There was genuine warmth in Dettori's greeting of Hills, who, while lacking the Italian's sublime riding skills, was clearly his equal in the confidence stakes. Such are the fruits of riding the right horses the right way at the right time.

Jockeys often reach the camp one place below the summit but few end up scaling the peak. The difference is infinitesimal, as Hills, 33, has learnt to accept. He thought he had reached it when given the chance aboard Owington, a talented sprinter two season's back, but suspension prevented him riding the horse in the July Cup.

"Paul Eddery took my place," he remembered, "and there was no way back after that. It was demoralising, but as a jockey you soon learn that you are never guaranteed a ride. That's why it is such a tremendous help to have trainers backing your corner. It makes all the difference."

Those words were almost certainly directed at Wragg's loyalty. Hills concedes that he made a mess of riding Pentire in last year's King George, when he moved too soon and allowed Lammtarra to wear him down at the finish. "It was an instant decision to go when I did," he reflected with an honesty indicative of his maturity. "I've had to live by it for 12 months. The horse had won so easily on his previous outing that I thought he was a steering job. I might have got over-confident."

His recent flourish also endorses the guiding hand of his father, Barry, who has established a turf dynasty every bit as potent as his remarkable training career. In addition to Michael, there is his riding twin, Richard, and their elder brother, John, who has laid foundations for his own future as a trainer.

The point here is that Barry fought hard for everything he owns. A former stable lad, he may have left behind those cold winter mornings but the memories linger. He was hard on the boys to start with; their fiercest critic after a bad ride. And there was never a danger of them receding towards the inner turbulence that stains the private lives of so many jockeys.

Jockeys must achieve harmony within a daily contradiction; their minds are at war with their bodies. Within hours of riding, when they should be conserving their strength, they must shed weight from skeletal frames. The toll tells on Hills, who is anxious to dispel the image of a champagne lifestyle aboard private jets.

"It is an extremely hard life," he said. "For four days a week in summer, we are up at dawn and not home again until late at night, often after eight or nine hours in a car. It is very monotonous. You can get sick of it quite frankly, as I did last year. It is also a dangerous job. I feel there is too much racing in summer, what with the afternoon and evening meetings, but you have to honour your commitments."

One wonders how other, less talented jockeys learn to cope. Some patrol the same beat but without the rewards, much as Hills himself before Shaamit, Pentire and First Island contrived their bout of summer magic. "Although winning the King George was special, we really thought Pentire would do it," he said. "But winning the Derby was a dream moment.

"The Derby was in all the books I read as a kid," he continued. "The pages were full of famous jockeys and the race is a part of history. Everyone always said it was the big one and now I know what they mean. I have worked hard for the other big races and I feel I've deserved it. But I'll never get that Derby feeling back again." It would have been unjust had he never experienced it at all.

Hills shows his delight after partnering Shaamit to his Derby triumph at Epsom

BATH

THUNDERER

2.30 Impulsion. 3.00 Old School House. 3.30 Spender. 4.00 How's Yer Father. 4.30 Orchard Gold. 5.00 Santella Katie.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 3.00 Uplift.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM (FIRM IN PLACES) SIS

DRAW: 5F-1M, LOW NUMBERS BEST

2.30 SCANIA 4-SERIES FRANCASAL TWO-YEAR-OLD SELLING STAKES (£2,318: 5f) (9 runners)

1	(1)	525	IMPULSION 26 R Hannon 8-11	Dane O'Neill (3)	94
2	(9)	0	LAKE SPRING 10 R Hodges 8-11	Declan O'Shea	–
3	(3)	6	MISS DARLING 12 J Akehurst 8-6	G Duffield	72
4	(6)	0	MUJADIL EXPRESS 42 J Moore 8-6	P P Murphy (5)	–
5	(8)	0560	PRINCESS FERDINAND 28 (V) M McCormack 8-6	D Biggs	92
6	(4)	3	SELECT LADY 47 A Jarvis 8-6	W J O'Connor	91
7	(5)	4	STATUETTE 90 B Palling 8-6	T Sprake	86
8	(2)	00	SYLVANIA LIGHTS 21 W Muir 8-6	S Whitworth	–
9	(7)	4330	WILL TO WIN 9 P Murphy 8-6	S Drowne	[illegible]

9-4 Will To Win, 3-1 Statuette, 4-1 Impulsion, 6-1 Select Lady, 7-1 Miss Darling, 8-1 Sylvania Lights, 10-1 others

3.00 WESTRUCKS FOR SCANIA HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £2,954: 2m 1f 34yd) (6)

1	(6)	0003	MISCHIEF STAR 17 D Elsworth 9-7	A Procter	93
2	(3)	6253	PERFECT GIFT 23 P Cole 9-6	J Reid	91
3	(2)	-251	UPLIFT 13 (F) M Prescott 9-4	G Duffield	92
4	(4)	5056	MEG'S MEMORY 21 (C,G) John Berry 9-4	N Varley (3)	96
5	(1)	2221	OLD SCHOOL HOUSE 7 (F,G) T Naughton 9-3 (5ex)	T Sprake	[illegible]
6	(5)	4531	STERLING FELLOW 12 (B,F) R Hannon 9-2	Dane O'Neill (3)	93

7-4 Sterling Fellow, 3-1 Mischief Star, 9-2 Uplift, 5-1 Old School House, 6-1 Perfect Gift, 14-1 Meg's Memory

3.30 SCANIA 1996 TRUCK OF THE YEAR SPRINT TROPHY (Handicap: £4,224: 5f 11yd) (8)

1	(5)	-000	GO HEVER GOLF 13 (D,F,G) T Naughton 4-10-0	S Whitworth	96
2	(4)	4411	KILDEE LAD 15 (C,D,F,G) A Jones 6-9-10	D Biggs	98
3	(8)	0250	TART AND A HALF 19 (B,D,F) B Meehan 4-9-7	M Tebbutt	[illegible]
4	(7)	0220	SPENDER 19 (CD,F,G) P Harris 7-9-7	A McGlone	97
5	(1)	1320	FRIENDLY BRAVE 8 (D,F,G,S) Miss G Kelleway 6-9-4	W J O'Connor	96
6	(6)	1426	BEAU VENTURE 15 (C,D,F,G,S) B Palling 8-9-3	Declan O'Shea	97
7	(2)	1020	SHADOW JURY 12 (B,D,F,G,S) D Chapman 6-8-11	S D Williams	98
8	(3)	-050	WINDRUSH BOY 13 (D,F) J Bosley 6-8-4	C Rutter	88

3-1 Kildee Lad, 4-1 Spender, 5-1 Tart And A Half, Friendly Brave, 6-1 Beau Venture, 9-1 Shadow Jury, 10-1 others

4.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES HORSEPOWER CLAIMING STAKES (£3,032: 5f 161yd) (9 runners)

1	(6)	008	DANCING LAWYER 91 (D,F,G) B Meehan 5-9-10	M Tebbutt	65
2	(3)	0200	PRIMA SILK 10 (CD,F,G) M Ryan 5-9-1	G Bardwell	90
3	(5)	5430	HEVER GOLF EXPRESS 31 (F) T Naughton 3-9-0	T Sprake	78
4	(7)	00-0	NORLING 26 (D,F,G) K Cunningham-Brown 6-8-12	S Whitworth	61
5	(9)	5522	SONGSHEET 27 (C,BF,G) M Meade 3-8-11	J Reid	82
6	(2)	0230	HOW'S YER FATHER 28 (D,F,G,S) R Hodges 10-8-6	S Drowne	[illegible]
7	(1)	4050	MEMBERS WELCOME 3 (V) J Bradley 3-8-6	Dane O'Neill (3)	75
8	(4)	00	TIME GOES ON 7 R Hodges 4-8-7	P P Murphy (5)	–
9	(8)	00	ATHENIAN ALLIANCE 5 J Bradley 7-8-1	N Adams	–

9-4 How's Yer Father, 4-1 Songsheet, 5-1 Prima Silk, 6-1 Dancing Lawyer, 7-1 Hever Golf Express, 8-1 Members Welcome, 10-1 Norling, 12-1 others.

4.30 WESTRUCKS SCANIA KNOW HOW HANDICAP (£4,276: 1m 5yd) (11)

1	(6)	0101	STAR OF GOLD 15 (CD,F,G) C Egerton 4-10-0	Dane O'Neill (3)	94
2	(1)	0030	MASTER MILLFIELD 33 (C,F,G) R Baker 4-9-11	A McGlone	94
3	(2)	3113	MR TEIGH 26 (D,G) B Smart 4-9-9	M Tebbutt	[illegible]
4	(3)	6654	DELIGHT OF DAWN 3 (D,F,G) R Stronge 4-9-7	V Slattery	94
5	(11)	0505	SOOTY TERN 9 (D,F,G,S) J Bradley 9-9-7	A Eddery (7)	94
6	(10)	0325	AFRICAN-PARD 8 (V) D Haydn Jones 4-9-5	J Reid	94
7	(8)	4000	ARTFUL DANE 13 (D,F) M Heaton-Ellis 4-9-4	S Drowne	95
8	(7)	0104	ROYAL THIMBLE 10 (V,C,F) N Chance 5-8-13	Martin Dwyer (5)	98
9	(4)	0040	REEFA'S MILL 45 (B) J Neville 4-8-9	N Varley (3)	90
10	(9)	0214	GREAT BEAR 7 (D,F,G) D Chapman 4-8-4	G Duffield	95
11	(5)	0122	ORCHARD GOLD 13 (D,G) J Pearce 5-8-4	G Bardwell	97

3-1 Mr Teigh, 4-1 Star of Gold, 7-1 African-Pard, Orchard Gold, 8-1 Master Millfield, Great Bear

5.00 SCANIA 4-SERIES KING OF THE ROAD APPRENTICE MAIDEN HANDICAP (£2,915: 1m 2f 46yd) (7)

1	(1)	-350	ILLUMINATE 49 Miss G Kelleway 3-9-13	Dane O'Neill	[illegible]
2	(3)	0050	SEVERN MILL 28 J Bradley 5-9-10	P P Murphy	95
3	(7)	624	SANTELLA KATIE 14 D Chappell 3-9-6	S Drowne	97
4	(4)	300-	MAGIC MELODY 285 P Cole 3-9-6	David O'Neill (5)	88
5	(6)	00-0	INDIAN SUNSET 26 C Egerton 3-8-5	N Varley	92
6	(2)	-002	JEAN-PIERRE 34 J Pearce 3-8-5	R Ffrench (5)	94
7	(5)	-000	PRINTERS QUILL 31 D Chappell 4-8-1	Sophie Mitchell (3)	–

2-1 Illuminate, 7-2 Santella Katie, 4-1 Magic Melody, 5-1 Jean Pierre, 7-1 Indian Sunset, 16-1 Severn Mill, 20-1 Printers Quill

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: N Chance, 3 winners from 5 runners, 60.0%; M Prescott, 4 from 20, 20.0%; D Elsworth, 8 from 42, 19.0%; P Cole, 21 from 112, 18.8%; P Harris, 3 from 18, 16.7%; M Ryan, 3 from 21, 14.3%.

JOCKEYS: J Reid, 20 winners from 107 rides, 18.7%; Martin Dwyer, 3 from 22, 13.6%; G Bardwell, 7 from 55, 12.7%; Dane O'Neill, 3 from 30, 10.0%.

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Brighton

Going: firm

2.15 (5f 213yd) 1, SPARKY (J F Egan, 10-1); 2, Breffni (Martin Dwyer, 10-11 fav); 3, Grovefair Lad (B Doyle, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Dozen Roses (4th), 10 My Precious (5th). 5 ran. 2l, 2½l, 1l, 6l. M W Easterby at Sheriff Hutton. Tote: £7.50; £2.50, £1.10. DF: £6.20. CSF: £19.06.

2.45 (6f 209yd) 1, SHEER FACE (J Reid, 5-2 fav); 2, Mystic Quest (J F Egan, 4-1); 3, Brandon Jack (T Quinn, 11-4). ALSO RAN: 5 Cartouche (5th), 10 Chopin, 16 Herbshan Dancer (6th), Swallow Breeze (4th). 7 ran. 2½l, 2½l, ½l, nk, 3½l. W Muir at Lambourn. Tote: £2.90; £1.50, £2.90. DF: £10.20. CSF: £12.14.

3.15 (5f 213yd) 1, CRYSTAL HEIGHTS (D Harrison, 9-2 jt-fav); 2, Mellors (S Sanders, 13-2); 3, Sharp Imp (D Biggs, 15-2). ALSO RAN: 9-2 jt-fav Yo Kiri-B, 5 Always Grace (5th), 11-2 Able Sheriff (4th), 9 Tafahhus, 12 Red Admiral (6th). 8 ran. Nk, nk, 3l, 3½l, 3½l. R O'Sullivan at Whitcombe. Tote: £5.10; £2.10, £1.60, £3.40. DF: £14.70. CSF: £29.77. Tricast: £188.37.

3.45 (1m 1f 209yd) 1, DOUBLE RUSH (T Quinn, 8-1); 2, Cheveley Dancer (G Bardwell, 14-1); 3, Pride Of Kashmir (G Hind, 6-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 fav Harlequin Walk (4th), 5 Tomal, 6 It'sthebusiness (6th), 9 Risky Tu (5th), 16 Blossomville, 20 Hunza Story, 25 Nita's Choice, 50 Paronomasia. 11 ran. 4l, 2½l, 1½l, 4l, 2½l. T Mills at Epsom. Tote: £7.50; £2.30, £3.20, £2.80. DF: £93.60. Trio: £82.40. CSF: £100.13. Tricast: £659.61.

4.15 (1m 3f 196yd) 1, PIKE CREEK (T Quinn, 15-8 fav); 2, The Legions Pride (J Reid, 8-1); 3, South Wind (A Clark, 2-11). ALSO RAN: 2 Typhoon Lad (4th), 66 Animation (5th). 5 ran. 15l, 2l, 3l, dist. I Balding at Kingsclere. Tote: £3.20; £1.20, £2.40. DF: £7.60. CSF: £14.32.

4.45 (6f 209yd) 1, WELCOME LU (F Norton, 5-1); 2, Office Hours (P Bloomfield, 6-1); 3, Have A Nightcap (T G McLaughlin, 12-1). ALSO RAN: 7-2 fav Mystery Matthias, 4 Velvet Jones (5th), 15-2 Flagstaff, 8 Danteen (4th), 12 Current Leader (6th), 20 Happy Venturer, 33 Trapper Norman. 10 ran. 3½l, ½l, nk, 2l, 3½l. J L Harris at Melton Mowbray. Tote: £5.50; £1.80, £2.70, £3.70. DF: £29.60. Trio: £81.40. CSF: £33.28. Tricast: £322.08.

5.15 (5f 59yd) 1, MEMPHIS BEAU (S Sanders, 11-4); 2, Mac Oates (R Perham, 16-1); 3, School Boy (A McGlone, 8-4 fav). ALSO RAN: 11-4 Harriet's Beau (5th), 5 Double Impression (4th). 5 ran. NR: Cadeau Elegant. 1¾l, 3½l, 2l, 1l. J Toller at Newmarket. Tote: £4.60; £1.20, £3.80. DF: £26.00. CSF: £29.30.

Placepot: £401.00. Quadpot: £119.90.

Newcastle

Going: firm (good to firm in straight)

2.30 (7f) 1, TOP OF THE WIND (K Fallon, 7-2); 2, Our Future (J Weaver, 5-1); 3, Run Lucy Run (K Darley, 10-1). ALSO RAN: 11-8 fav Sica's My Key, 10 Cajun Sunset (5th), Fast Spin (6th), 14 Skelton Sovereign (4th), 16 Not A Lot. 8 ran. 1l, 1l, 3l, 2½l, 3l. J J O'Neill at Penrith. Tote: £4.30; £1.70, £1.90, £2.00. DF: £10.60. CSF: £21.09. Tricast: £134.02.

3.00 (1m 4f 93yd) 1, HE'S GOT WINGS (G Faulkner, 8-13 fav); 2, What Jim Wants (S Copp, 4-1); 3, Ragtime Cowgirl (D Sweeney, 7-2). ALSO RAN: 20 Cameron Edge (6th), 25 Boy Blakeney (4th), Bright Pet (5th), 33 Sleepy Boy. 7 ran. 9l, 10l, 5l, ¾l, 7l. M Bell at Newmarket. Tote: £2.20; £1.20, £1.80. DF: £3.60. CSF: £3.97. Winner sold to J Ramsden for 8,800gns.

3.30 (6f) 1, MYSTIC CIRCLE (N Connorton, 7-4 fav); 2, Head Girl (A Mackay, 9-4); 3, Sad Mad Bad (K Darley, 3-1). ALSO RAN: 3 Aurelian (4th). 4 ran. NR: Krystal Davey. 1l, 1¾l, 15l. J Watts at Richmond. Tote: £2.70. DF: £3.80. CSF: £6.12.

4.00 (1m 1f 9yd) 1, WHITE PLAINS (R Mullen, 3-1); 2, Tissue Of Lies (J Weaver, 13-2); 3, Call Me (D McKeown, 15-8 fav). ALSO RAN: 7-2 Smarter Charter (4th), 4 Hareb (5th). 5 ran. 1l, 1¾l, 13l, 5l. M Bell at Newmarket. Tote: £3.70; £2.30, £2.30. DF: £10.10. CSF: £19.19.

4.30 (7f) 1, TINKLERS FOLLY (L Charnock, 10-1); 2, Keston Pond (M Deering, 3-1 jt-fav); 3, Cavers Yangous (J Weaver, 9-2). ALSO RAN: 3 jt-fav Samsolom (5th), 11-2 Barato, 6 Quilling (4th), 8 Kid Ory (6th). 7 ran. Hd, 1½l, nd, hd, 2½l. Denys Smith at Bishop Auckland. Tote: £13.60; £4.30, £2.10. DF: £19.70. CSF: £39.15.

5.00 (2m 19yd) 1, SHIRLEY SUE (J Weaver, 5-2 jt-fav); 2, Forgie (M Birch, 11-2); 3, Jamaican Flight (J Fortune, 5-1). ALSO RAN: 5-2 jt-fav French Ivy (4th), 5 Karaylar (5th), 10 Latvian, 50 Calcando (6th). 7 ran. 2l, 8l, ¾l, 12l, sh hd. M Johnston at Middleham. Tote: £2.50; £2.00, £3.40. DF: £8.90. CSF: £15.92.

Placepot: £351.40. Quadpot: £18.90.

Dettori ready to return at Newmarket

LANFRANCO DETTORI returns to the saddle at Newmarket on Saturday. The champion jockey, out of action since he fractured an elbow at Newbury eight weeks ago, has been given the go-ahead by surgeon Dr Richard Dodds and needs only to pass the racecourse doctor to resume riding.

Dettori, who was injured when thrown from Shawanni in the paddock on June 13, has already been reunited with the Gold Cup winner, Classic Cliche, a Prix de l'Arc de Triomphe hope, on the Newmarket gallops.

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HAMILTON PARK

THUNDERER

6.05 Silk Cottage. 6.35 Jay-Gee-Em. 7.05 Giftbox. 7.35 L A Touch. 8.05 Askern. 8.35 Mentalasanythin.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

6.05 SCOTTISH RIFLES APPRENTICE HANDICAP (£2,969: 5f 4yd) (8 runners)

1	0500	RAMSEY HOPE 9 (V,C,F) C Fairhurst 3-9-12	J Edmunds 5
2	1353	SILK COTTAGE 9 (V,D,G) R Whitaker 4-9-11	P Fredericks (5) 1
3	0341	TROPICAL BEACH 5 (CD,F,G) J Berry 3-9-10 (7ex)	C Lowther (5) 7
4	3011	NATURAL KEY 5 (C,D,F) D Haydn Jones 3-9-9 (7ex)	R Mullen 8
5	4632	PATHAZE 5 (D,F) N Bycroft 3-8-9	Angela Gallimore 4
6	2404	SERIOUS HURRY 15 (B,CD,F,G) R McKellar 8-8-8	K Sked 3
7	0363	YOUNG BEN 3 (V) J Wainwright 4-8-0	J Bramhill 2
8	0500	LORD CORNELIOUS 3 D Nolan 3-7-10	D McGaffin (7) 6

2-1 Silk Cottage, 3-1 Natural Key, 9-2 Tropical Beach, 6-1 Pathaze, 8-1 Serious Hurry, 10-1 Young Ben, 12-1 others

6.35 HYNDFORD CLAIMING STAKES (2-Y-O: £2,619: 6f 5yd) (6)

1	15	AVINALARF 13 (F) W G M Turner 8-12	D Sweeney (7) 1
2	530	SHERATON GIRL 9 M Johnston 8-8	J Weaver 3
3	1	JAY-GEE-EM 10 (F) R Guest 8-7	A Mackay 5
4	1334	CONTRAVENE 75 (F) J Berry 8-6	J Fanning 6
5		LADY LOUISE M Hammond 8-4	A Culhane 4
6	3231	ABSTONE QUEEN 7 (B,D,G) P Evans 8-2	J F Egan 2

7-4 Jay-Gee-Em, 3-1 Avinalarf, 7-2 Abstone Queen, 8-1 Sheraton Girl, Contravene, 10-1 Lady Louise

7.05 WILLIAM HILL SCOTTISH TROPHY HANDICAP (£7,588: 1m 65yd) (13)

1	0256	BOLD AMUSEMENT 49 (B,C,D,F,G) W Cunningham 6-10-0	D Sweeney (7) 4
2	0062	UP IN FLAMES 5 (D,F,G) M Hammond 5-9-13	A Culhane 2
3	4040	REINHARDT 4 J Wainwright 3-9-4	J Bramhill (7) 9
4	0616	KING CURAN 15 (B,CD,F,G,S) D Haydn Jones 5-9-3	A Mackay 7
5	0-02	CELEBRATION CAKE 27 (D,F) Miss L Perratt 4-9-2	J Weaver 11
6	31U2	GIFTBOX 24 (CD,BF,G,S) M Prescott 4-9-1	R Perham 1
7	0000	NIZAAL 98 (G,S) R Allan 5-8-13	J Fanning 6
8	3114	HABETA 20 (B,CD,F,G) J Watts 10-8-8	N Connorton 10
9	0-03	RAASED 57 (G) F Watson 4-8-8	J F Egan 8
10	1301	GREY KINGDOM 7 (F) M Brittain 5-8-4 (5ex)	J Lowe 13
11	3315	THATCHED 13 (D,F) R Barr 6-8-3	D McKeown 5
12	0440	GIDDY 12 J Hetherton 3-8-1	N Kennedy 12
13	6324	SECONDS AWAY 5 J Goldie 5-7-10	Iona Wands (7) 3

4-1 Up In Flames, 5-1 Giftbox, 6-1 Habeta, 7-1 Celebration Cake, 7-1 Grey Kingdom, 8-1 King Curan, 10-1 Thatched, 12-1 others

7.35 COURVOISIER CLASSIC LIMITED STAKES (£2,703: 6f 5yd) (6)

1	-511	KING OF SHOW 20 (V,F) R Allan 5-9-6	A Culhane 6
2	5553	SIX FOR LUCK 5 (F) D Nolan 4-9-0	V Halliday 5
3	5060	BROOKHEAD LADY 5 (D,F,G,S) P Evans 5-8-11	J F Egan 2
4	0020	LEADING PRINCESS 15 (B,CD,BF,F,G) Miss L Perratt 5-8-11	J Weaver 4
5	0006	SHAA SPIN 5 J Berry 4-8-11	P Roberts (5) 3
6	0-22	L A TOUCH 8 (D,BF,F) C Dwyer 3-8-7	J Stack 1

9-4 King Of Show, 5-2 Leading Princess, 3-1 L A Touch, 8-1 Brookhead Lady, Six For Luck, 12-1 Shaa Spin

8.05 BRAVEHEART RACING CLUB HANDICAP (£3,631: 1m 3f 16yd) (9)

1	3321	ASKERN 5 (CD,F) D Haydn Jones 5-10-5 (5ex)	A Mackay 1
2	2330	AMBIDEXTROUS 6 (D,F) E Alston 4-9-1	D Wright (3) 4
3	0421	STORMLESS 47 (F) P Monteith 5-8-9	Darren Moffatt (3) 3
4	3406	MANOY 10 (B,CD,G) J Hetherton 3-8-8	J Weaver 5
5	3503	TRUMPED 31 P Monteith 4-8-5	J Bramhill (7) 8
6	3066	EXCLUSION 21J (C,F,S) J Hetherton 7-8-1	J F Egan 7
7	4061	GOLD DESIRE 6 (F,G,S) M Brittain 6-8-1 (5ex)	J Lowe 9
8	1000	VICTOR LASZLO 20 (C,F) R Allan 4-8-0	J Fanning 2
9	0064	RAPID MOVER 5 (B,CD,S) D Nolan 9-7-10	K Sked (7) 6

9-4 Gold Desire, 7-2 Stormless, 4-1 Askern, 8-1 Ambidextrous, 9-1 Trumped, 10-1 Exclusion, 12-1 Manoy, 14-1 others

8.35 CAMERONIANS HANDICAP (£3,534: 1m 5f 9yd) (5)

1	0020	MENTALASANYTHIN 22 (CD,F,G,S) D Haydn Jones 7-9-11	A Mackay 3
2	5030	RED SPECTACLE 20 (F,G) P Haslam 4-8-10	R Mullen (7) 1
3	360-	PROPHITS PRIDE 217J P Monteith 4-8-5	J Bramhill (7) 4
4	-514	MONACO GOLD 22 (D,F) Mrs M Reveley 4-8-1	D Wright (3) 2
5	0315	LAWN ORDER 19 (C,F) Mrs J Ramsden 3-7-10	N Kennedy 5

9-4 Mentalasanythin, 5-2 Monaco Gold, 3-1 Lawn Order, 9-2 Red Spectacle, 8-1 Prophits Pride

COURSE SPECIALISTS

TRAINERS: J Watts, 3 winners from 10 runners, 30.0%; M Prescott, 10 from 36, 27.8%; Mrs M Reveley, 32 from 152, 21.1%; P Haslam, 24 from 120, 20.0%; M Johnston, 33 from 180, 18.3%; D Haydn Jones, 4 from 22, 18.2%.

JOCKEYS: J Weaver, 37 winners from 141 rides, 26.2%; K Sked, 3 from 13, 23.1%; D McKeown, 23 from 157, 14.6%; A Mackay, 14 from 113, 12.4%; N Varley, 4 from 33, 12.1%; D Moffatt, 9 from 85, 10.6%.

☐ Walter Swinburn will return to action, after a six-month absence, at Windsor on Monday. He will partner Talathath, a winner at Brighton last Monday, for trainer Chris Dwyer. The Newmarket-based jockey suffered serious head, shoulder and rib injuries in a fall in Hong Kong in February.

YARMOUTH

THUNDERER

5.50 Sarasota Storm. 6.20 Welcome Parade. 6.50 Nelly's Cousin. 7.20 Prince Rudolf. 7.50 Velour. 8.20 Bangles.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 8.20 Pharaoh's Joy.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM SIS

DRAW: 5F-1M, HIGH NUMBERS BEST

5.50 EAST COAST HANDICAP (£4,053: 1m 6f 17yd) (5 runners)

1	6105	FARRINGDON HILL 15 (B,D,F) W Hern 5-10-0	Paul Eddery 2
2	2320	CHATHAM ISLAND 12 (C,F,G) C Brittain 8-9-7	B Doyle 4
3	4-14	FROZEN SEA 26 (CD,F) G Enright 5-9-2	R Cochrane 5
4	2305	SHIRLEY VENTURE 34 S Woods 3-8-12	W Woods 3
5	1610	SARASOTA STORM 13 (F,S) M Bell 4-8-3	M Fenton 1

2-1 Chatham Island, 11-4 Farringdon Hill, 100-30 Sarasota Storm, 9-2 Frozen Sea, 6-1 Shirley Venture

6.20 MANSHIP MAIDEN STAKES (£4,489: 1m 3f 101yd) (4)

1	25	SUPERMODEL 16J Mrs N Macauley 4-9-2	C Teague (3) 2
2	3	WELCOME PARADE 16 H Cecil 3-8-11	Pat Eddery 1
3	0	LUCKY HOOF 36 C Brittain 3-8-6	B Doyle 3
4	0352	NASEEM ALSAHAR 15 (B) W Hern 3-8-6	Paul Eddery 4

2-5 Welcome Parade, 7-2 Naseem Alsahar, 6-1 Lucky Hoof, 25-1 Supermodel

6.50 FREETHORPE CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,945: 1m 2f 21yd) (7)

1	0141	NELLY'S COUSIN 3 (D,F) N Callaghan 8-12	Pat Eddery 3
2	6540	CHABROL 13 R Harris 8-9	R Havlin (5) 7
3	310	TITCHWELL LASS 7 (D,F) J Banks 8-6	R Cochrane 6
4	-000	FARFESTE 48 D Morris 8-4	N Day 4
5	0554	SYLVELLA 20 M Jarvis 8-4	G Carter 5
6	055	RENO'S TREASURE 10 J A Harris 8-2	B Doyle 2
7	4	NANNY-B 18 P Howling 7-12	F Norton 1

6-4 Nelly's Cousin, 7-2 Titchwell Lass, 9-2 Sylvella, 7-1 Chabrol, 10-1 Reno's Treasure, 12-1 Nanny-B, 16-1 Farfeste

7.20 HORSEY SELLING HANDICAP (£2,490: 1m 3yd) (11)

1	0055	HOUGHTON VENTURE 12 (B) S Woods 4-10-0	W Woods 8
2	0066	SWEET AMORET 5 (G) P Howling 3-8-12	F Norton 5
3	6520	PERCY PARROT 9 (D,F) R Whitaker 4-8-11	Paul Eddery 1
4	0044	PRINCE RUDOLF 10 (V,G) W G M Turner 4-8-11	Amanda Sanders (5) 2
5	-050	UNSPOKEN PRAYER 52 J Arnold 3-8-10	J Quinn 3
6	5500	BOOST 8J (B) Mrs N Macauley 4-8-8	C Teague (3) 7
7	3604	BALPARE 5 (G) N Callaghan 3-8-8	Pat Eddery 6
8	0030	KUWAM 6 B Hanbury 3-8-6	M Rimmer 4
9	00-0	MAD ABOUT THE GIRL 57 D Cosgrove 4-8-5	D R McCabe 11
10	5000	ROSE CHIME 12 (B,F) J L Harris 4-8-0	B Doyle 9
11	0005	DOMUSKY 38 R Bastiman 3-7-10	M Henry (3) 10

3-1 Balpare, 4-1 Percy Parrot, 5-1 Houghton Venture, 6-1 Unspoken Prayer, 7-1 Kuwam, 10-1 Prince Rudolf, Boost, 12-1 others

7.50 CAISTER CASTLE FILLIES CONDITIONS STAKES (2-Y-O: £6,496: 7f 3yd) (2)

1	4	REJOICING 5 W O'Gorman 8-9	Emma O'Gorman 2
2	2	VELOUR 20 D Loder 8-9	Pat Eddery 1

1-3 Velour, 2-1 Rejoicing

8.20 FILBY BRIDGE FILLIES HANDICAP (£3,368: 5f 43yd) (6)

1	5021	MIDNIGHT SPELL 10 (D,F) J Hills 4-10-2 (6ex)	M Henry (3) 3
2	2131	LADY CAROLINE LAMB 114 (D,BF,F,S) R Bastiman 3-9-12	H Bastiman (5) 2
3	0043	BANGLES 13 (D,F,G) Lord Huntingdon 6-9-10	Aimee Cook (5) 1
4	0153	PHARAOH'S JOY 14 (D,F) J Payne 3-9-5	R Cochrane 6
5	0352	LLOC 24 (D,S) C Dwyer 4-9-4	Jo Hunnam (7) 5
6	06-0	SIZZLING ROMP 12 D Thom 4-9-2	J Tate 4

2-1 Bangles, 11-4 Midnight Spell, 100-30 Lady Caroline Lamb, 5-1 Pharaoh's Joy, 7-1 Lloc, 16-1 Sizzling Romp

COURSE SPECIALISTS

YARMOUTH: Trainers: H Cecil, 19 winners from 87 runners, 21.8%; D Loder, 9 from 44, 20.5%; N Callaghan, 9 from 51, 17.6%; J Hills, 5 from 29, 17.2%; M Bell, 14 from 86, 16.3%; D Morris, 11 from 71, 15.5%. Jockeys: Pat Eddery, 13 winners from 63 rides, 20.6%; R Cochrane, 14 from 86, 16.3%; B Doyle, 13 from 87, 14.9%; G Carter, 9 from 65, 13.8%; Emma O'Gorman, 4 from 30, 13.3%; M Fenton, 7 from 53, 13.2%.

PONTEFRACT: Trainers: H Cecil, 14 winners from 32 runners, 43.8%; M Stoute, 10 from 36, 27.8%; G Harwood, 4 from 15, 26.7%; A Stewart, 7 from 27, 25.9%; J Dunlop, 9 from 39, 23.1%; Mrs J Ramsden, 33 from 167, 19.8%. Jockeys: K Fallon, 38 winners from 183 rides, 20.8%; W Ryan, 18 from 89, 20.2%; F Lynch, 4 from 23, 17.4%; R Hills, 9 from 61, 14.8%; G Hind, 4 from 31, 12.9%; K Darley, 21 from 197, 10.7%.

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Bath: 2.30 Princess Ferdinand, 4.30 Reefa's Mill. Hamilton Park: 6.05 Ramsey Hope, 7.05 Bold Amusement. Pontefract: 5.45 Gilling Dancer

RICHARD EVANS

Nap: OLD SCHOOL HOUSE
(3.00 Bath)

Next best: Impulsion
(2.30 Bath)

PONTEFRACT

THUNDERER

2.45 Advance East	4.15 GLIDE PATH (nap)
3.15 Amid Albadu	4.45 Just Dissident
3.45 Zalotti	5.15 Jamrat Jumairah
	5.45 Gool Lee Shay

The Times Private Handicapper's top rating: 5.45 GOOL LEE SHAY.

Our Newmarket Correspondent: 5.15 JAMRAT JUMAIRAH (nap).

GUIDE TO OUR RACECARD

103 (12) 0-0432 GOOD TIMES 74 (CD,BF,F,G,S) (Mrs D Robinson) B Hall 9-10-0 B West (4) 88

Racecard number. Draw in brackets. Six-figure form (F — fell. P — pulled up. U — unseated rider. B — brought down. S — slipped up. R — refused. D — disqualified). Horse's name. Days since last outing: J if jumps. F if flat. (B — blinkers. V — visor. H — hood. E — Eyeshield. C — course winner. D — distance winner. CD — course and distance winner. BF — beaten favourite in latest race). Going on which horse has won (F — firm, good to firm, hard. G — good. S — soft, good to soft, heavy). Owner in brackets. Trainer. Age and weight. Rider plus any allowance. The Times Private Handicapper's rating.

GOING: GOOD TO FIRM DRAW: 5F-6F, LOW NUMBERS BEST

TOTE JACKPOT MEETING SIS

2.45 BOLLINGER CHAMPAGNE CHALLENGE SERIES HANDICAP (Gentleman amateurs: £2,950: 1m 2f 6yd) (11 runners)

101	(4)	112130	MONTONE 10 (V,F,G,S) (B Sharazi) J Jenkins 6-12-0	M Mannish (4)	95
102	(3)	33682	BLURRED 8 (M Tompkins) M Tompkins 3-11-9	M Jenkins (4)	[illegible]
103	(6)	502660	COMMANDER GLEN 12 (B,F,G) Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-7	C Bonner	98
104	(10)	312354	ESSAYEFFSEE 21 (CD,F,G) (Mrs S Murray) Mrs M Reveley 7-11-7	M H Naughton	95
105	(7)	060044	ADVANCE EAST 8 (P Locke) Mrs J Ramsden 4-11-6	S Swiers	95
106	(5)	303505	MASTER OF THE HOUSE 17 (CD,F,G,S) M Hammond 10-10-13	T Whitaker (4)	96
107	(2)	000000	D'NAAN 19 (B,G) (A Almajil) W Haggas 3-10-12	P Scott	87
108	(9)	230432	FAIRY HIGHLANDS 38 (J Walby) J Haldane 3-10-11	J A Stack (4)	97
109	(11)	01/66-84	GOLDEN HADEER 14 (S) (M Ryan) M Ryan 5-10-6	S Lavallin (4)	93
110	(8)	300030	BOLD TOP 17 (Mrs G Spink) B Rothwell 4-10-1	R Thornton (4)	98
111	(1)	000004	NEVER TIME 27 (Mrs A Matlinson) Mrs V Aconley 4-9-12	G Markham (4)	96

BETTING: 4-1 Essayeffsee, Blurred, 5-1 Advance East, 7-1 Commander Glen, Fairy Highlands, 8-1 Montone, 10-1 Never Time, 12-1 others

1995: ESSAYEFFSEE 6-11-0 M H Naughton (6-1) Mrs M Reveley 10 ran

FORM FOCUS

MONTONE 2l 3rd of 9 to Ring Vision in handicap at Redcar (1m 3f, good to firm) on penultimate start, with ESSAYEFFSEE (1lb better off) neck and ¾l 5th. BLURRED neck 2nd of 8 to Celestial Choir in handicap at Doncaster (1m 2f, good to firm) with ADVANCE EAST (1lb better off) 1¾l 4th. COMMANDER GLEN best effort 3l 2nd of 15 to Kernof in apprentices handicap over course and distance (good to firm). ESSAYEFFSEE 3l 4th of 6 to Bulsara in handicap at Redcar (1m 2f, good to firm). MASTER OF THE HOUSE about 2½l 5th of 7 to Pickens in seller at Beverley (1m 4f, good to firm) with BOLD TOP (12lb better off) 13½l 7th. FAIRY HIGHLANDS 2½l 2nd of 6 to Termon in maiden at Musselburgh (1m, good). GOLDEN HADEER 3l 4th of 19 to Augustan in amateurs handicap at Chepstow (1m 4f, good to firm).

Selection: BLURRED

3.15 CORNMILL HOTEL HULL MAIDEN STAKES (2-Y-O: £3,323: 6f) (13 runners)

201	(5)	2	AMID ALBADU 39 (H Al Maktoum) J Dunlop 9-0	R Hills	[illegible]
202	(3)		DUSTON BOY (D Yardy) J White 9-0	Dale Gibson	–
203	(1)		IRISH ACCORD (P Leonard) Mrs J Ramsden 9-0	K Fallon	–
204	(7)	5	ITALIAN SYMPHONY 21 (P Savill) M Johnston 9-0	K Darley	98
205	(13)		MYSTERIUM (Mrs G Taylor) N Littmoden 9-0	T G McLaughlin	–
206	(10)	6	PADDY LAD 73 (M & G Hill) R Guest 9-0	P Bloomfield	–
207	(11)	5	PALDOST 35 (S Branken) M Hammond 9-0	J Fortune	–
208	(4)		SAINT WHO (Times Of Wigan) W O'Gorman 9-0	T Ives	–
209	(12)	5	SPANIARD'S MOUNT 13 (B Schmidt-Bodner) M Tompkins 9-0	P Robinson	83
210	(6)		SYMONDS INN (Marquesa de Moratalla) J Fitzgerald 9-0	W Ryan	–
211	(9)		CORAL STRAND (C Campbell Golding) J Watts 8-9	J Carroll	–
212	(8)	00	LUCYBOD 124 (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 8-9	L Charnock	71
213	(2)	4	TERRY'S ROSE 75 (Mrs L Hurd) R Hollinshead 8-9	F Lynch (3)	81

BETTING: 5-2 Amid Albadu, 4-1 Italian Symphony, 5-1 Spaniard's Mount, 6-1 Terry's Rose, 7-1 Saint Who, Irish Accord, 8-1 Coral Strand, 10-1 others.

1995: LAAFEE 9-0 R Hills (6-4 fav) H Thomson Jones 12 ran

FORM FOCUS

AMID ALBADU 1l 2nd of 5 to Sinecure in maiden at Doncaster (6f, good to firm).
ITALIAN SYMPHONY about 1l 5th of 9 to Lady Mail in maiden at Redcar (7f, firm).
PADDY LAD 14½l 6th of 10 to Belle Vue in maiden at Southwell (AW, 6f). PALDOST 19½l 5th of 6 to Brave Act in maiden at Ayr (7f, good to soft).
SPANIARD'S MOUNT about 8¾l 5th of 6 to Hirasah in maiden at Newmarket (6f, good to firm). LUCYBOD 11l 8th of 9 to Aztec Traveller in auction maiden at Haydock (5f, good). TERRY'S ROSE about 4l 4th of 6 to Molly Drummond in maiden at Haydock (5f, good to soft).
Selection: AMID ALBADU (nap)

3.45 AUGUST CLAIMING STAKES (3-Y-O: £2,667: 5f) (8 runners)

301	(6)	514064	CHEMCAST 6 (B,D,F,G) (B Cassidy) D Nicholls 8-13	Alex Greaves	84
302	(7)	360212	NO MONKEY NUTS 7 (D,BF,F) (Monkey Partners) J Berry 8-13	J Carroll	[illegible]
303	(4)	1-	ZALOTTI 432 (D,F) (P Savill) T Etherington 8-11	K Darley	93
304	(3)	000006	BOFFY 28 (D,G) (S Baugh) B Baugh 8-9	N Carlisle	70
305	(5)		IMPERIAL RED (G Amy) H Collingridge 8-7	K Fallon	–
306	(8)	643540	COMIC FANTASY 13 (D,F) (C Clark) M Wane 8-6	J Fortune	96
307	(1)	0-5	GINAS GIRL 185 (Mrs M Fanous) Miss J Bower 8-4	T Williams	–
308	(2)		MY ACHATES (G Ashton) M Brittain 8-1	Dale Gibson	–

BETTING: 5-2 No Monkey Nuts, 11-4 Zalotti, 3-1 Comic Fantasy, 4-1 Chemcast, 12-1 Imperial Red, 14-1 My Achates, 16-1 others

1995: THE HAPPY FOX 9-0 J Fortune (3-1) B McMahon 5 ran

FORM FOCUS

CHEMCAST 4l 4th of 9 to Clan Chief in handicap at Goodwood (5f, good to firm). NO MONKEY NUTS neck 2nd of 8 to Bee Health Boy in handicap at Doncaster (6f, good to firm). ZALOTTI beat Mask Flower 3l in 6-runner maiden at Ayr (5f, good to firm). BOFFY 14½l 6th of 8 to Princess Efisio in handicap at Wolverhampton (AW, 6f). COMIC FANTASY about 2½l 4th of 6 to Middle East in handicap at Redcar (6f, firm) on penultimate start. GINAS GIRL about 9¾l 5th of 9 to Coastguards Hero in auction maiden at Southwell (AW, 6f).
Selection: NO MONKEY NUTS

4.15 ROGERTHORPE MANOR HOTEL HANDICAP (£7,895: 1m 4f 8yd) (5 runners)

401	(2)	100-056	GLIDE PATH 26 (D,F,G) (Jampot Partners) J Hills 7-9-11	R Hills	96
402	(3)	501414	ARTIC COURIER 15 (D,F) (Britam Promotions) D Cosgrove 5-9-9	J Stack	[illegible]
403	(5)	0240-00	TIME FOR ACTION 48 (G) (Mrs G Smith) M Tompkins 4-9-2	P Robinson	95
404	(4)	421	LEAR EXPRESS 16 (F) (Thoroughbred Corp) H Cecil 3-8-12	W Ryan	95
405	(1)	0-05032	CHARMING ADMIRAL 35 (R Al Mualla) C Wall 3-7-10	N Carlisle	96

Long handicap: Charming Admiral 7-9

BETTING: 6-4 Lear Express, 5-2 Glide Path, 11-4 Charming Admiral, 9-2 Artic Courier, 33-1 Time For Action

1995: LATVIAN 8-9-1 J Fortune (3-1) R Allan 4 ran

FORM FOCUS

GLIDE PATH about 6l 6th of 9 to I'm Supposin in handicap at Down Royal (1m 4f 110yd, good to firm). ARTIC COURRIER beat General Mouktar 1½l in 11-runner handicap at Epsom (1m 4f, good to firm) on penultimate start. TIME FOR ACTION 23l 8th of 9 to Western Sal in handicap at Newmarket (1m 4f, good to firm). LEAR EXPRESS beat Royal Action head in 5-runner maiden at Yarmouth (1m 3f 101yd, firm). CHARMING ADMIRAL head 2nd of 5 to Tina Swan in handicap at Haydock (1m 6f, good to soft).
Selection: ARTIC COURIER

4.45 CHAPLINS CLUB HANDICAP (£3,753: 5f) (11 runners)

501	(4)	222123	SWAN AT WHALLEY 19 (D,F,G) (H Barlow) M Wane 4-10-0	J Fortune	96
502	(2)	628435	CAPTAIN CARAT 10 (CD,BF,F,G) (C Webster) Mrs J Ramsden 5-9-11	K Fallon	93
503	(8)	200515	ROCKCRACKER 15 (B,F) (P Avon) G Margarson 4-9-10	P Robinson	95
504	(10)	316045	RICH GLOW 12 (D,F,S) (M Bateson) N Bycroft 5-9-5	K Darley	98
505	(11)	043100	NED'S BONANZA 13 (D,F,G) (N Jones) M Dods 7-9-4	A Clark	[illegible]
506	(3)	002310	JUST DISSIDENT 12 (CD,F) (Mrs C Hodgetts) R Whitaker 4-9-3	F Lynch (3)	97
507	(1)	351383	SONDERISE 26 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs D Wright) N Tinkler 7-8-13	J Carroll	93
508	(7)	123253	DOMINELLE 5 (D,F) (Sandmoor Textiles) T Easterby 4-8-12	M Birch	97
509	(5)	300-2	POLAR REFRAIN 135 (B Parker) C Dwyer 3-8-9	T G McLaughlin	84
510	(9)	00-5601	KARCAST 3 (B,CD,F,G,S) (Mrs M Marshall) D Chapman 11-8-7 (7ex)	L Charnock	92
511	(6)	503660	GONDO 3 (D,F,G,S) (Mrs H O'Brien) E Alston 9-7-12	Dale Gibson	97

BETTING: 9-2 Karcast, 5-1 Swan At Whalley, 11-2 Ned's Bonanza, 6-1 Dominelle, 13-2 Rich Glow, 8-1 Just Dissident, 10-1 Sonderise, 12-1 others

1995: LOCHON 4-9-5 R Lappin (4-1) J Eyre 7 ran

FORM FOCUS

ROCKCRACKER beat Ciserano 1½l in 7-runner handicap at Warwick (6f, good to firm) on penultimate start, with SONDERISE (6lb better off) 1¼l 3rd. RICH GLOW about 1¾l 5th of 15 to Laurel Delight in handicap at Newcastle (5f, good to firm). JUST DISSIDENT beat Royal Dome 2l in 8-runner handicap over course and distance (good to firm) on penultimate start. DOMINELLE 1½l 3rd of 13 to Tropical Beach in ladies selling handicap at Thirsk (6f, firm). POLAR REFRAIN 2½l 2nd of 12 to Miletrian Refurb in seller at Newcastle (6f, good to soft). KARCAST beat Good To Talk ¾l in 16-runner selling handicap at Ripon (5f, good to firm).
Selection: SWAN AT WHALLEY

5.15 MATTY BOWN MEMORIAL MAIDEN STAKES (£3,713: 1m 4yd) (12 runners)

601	(11)	0/0-	ETOILE DU NORD 295 (Miss Z Whitmore) H Collingridge 4-9-7	P Robinson	–
602	(6)	4-	ROI DU NORD 100J (P Haddock) S Campion 4-9-7	T Ives	–
603	(10)		CRAMBELLA 54J (Mrs S Oakes) G Kelly 4-9-2	G Parkin (5)	–
604	(9)	4	ISIT IZZY 33 (Mrs A Beard) B McMahon 4-9-2	J Fortune	81
605	(12)		BEANO SCRIPT (J Hanson) Miss S Hall 3-9-0	M Birch	–
606	(1)	44-26	FOURDANED 12 (Foursquare) P Harris 3-9-0	G Hind	[illegible]
607	(3)	2-06	GLEN PARKER 31 (Angus Dundee) H Cecil 3-9-0	W Ryan	85
608	(7)	3	MIDDAY COWBOY 26 (S Kamel) G Harwood 3-9-0	A Clark	84
609	(5)	00	CLASSIC ROYALE 14 (Classic Bloodstock) R Harris 3-8-9	D Batteate	77
610	(8)	2-	JAMRAT JUMAIRAH 301 (A Al Maktoum) E Dunlop 3-8-9	K Fallon	93
611	(4)	4-250	REALLY A DREAM 19 (P Pritchard) M Stoute 3-8-9	K Darley	98
612	(2)		SILVRETTA (S Hastings) A Stewart 3-8-9	D Harrison	–

BETTING: 7-2 Jamrat Jumairah, 4-1 Fourdaned, 9-2 Really A Dream, 5-1 Glen Parker, Silvretta, 10-1 others

1995: PUMICE 3-8-9 K Fallon (5-1) L Cumani 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

ISIT IZZY 5l 2nd of 6 to Papaha in maiden at Beverley (1m 100yd, good to firm). FOURDANED 1¾l 2nd of 14 to Woorm in maiden at Ripon (1m, good to firm) on penultimate start. GLEN PARKER about 9¾l 6th of 17 to Questonia in maiden at Windsor (1m 67yd, good). MIDDAY COWBOY 6½l 3rd of 15 to High Summer in maiden at Warwick (7f, good to firm). JAMRAT JUMAIRAH short-head 2nd of 12 to Green Charter in maiden at Redcar (7f, firm). Selection: MIDDAY COWBOY

5.45 TALLY HO HANDICAP (3-Y-O: £3,243: 1m 4yd) (14 runners)

1	(5)	040108	GILLING DANCER 10 (B,D,F) (Lord Zetland) P Calver 9-7	M Birch	86
2	(4)	000016	FALCON'S FLAME 10 (D,F) (C Webster) Mrs J Ramsden 9-2	K Fallon	84
3	(11)	005465	ANGUS McCOATUP 12 (D Allen) B McMahon 9-1	J Fortune	88
4	(10)	00050	GOLD LINING 27 (P Onslow) E Alston 8-11	J Carroll	85
5	(8)	0-54000	LAPU-LAPU 19 (D French) M Camacho 8-10	L Charnock	80
6	(14)	461036	CONTRACT BRIDGE 23 (D,G) (Racegoers Club) C Thornton 8-9	D McKeown	84
7	(12)	000002	GOOL LEE SHAY 6 (W Hattersley) R Whitaker 8-9	W Ryan	[illegible]
8	(13)	064045	RICHARD HOUSE LAD 45 (D Morrall) R Hollinshead 8-7	F Lynch (3)	91
9	(7)	302604	SEEKING DESTINY 12 (B,G) (M O'Toole) M Chapman 8-7	P McCabe (3)	88
10	(6)	406-000	PAPER MAZE 19 (Mrs F Williams) E Owen 8-6	R Cody-Boutcher (7)	80
11	(11)	00040	DISPOL DUCHESS 10 (W Imison) G Oldroyd 8-3	Dale Gibson	89
12	(3)	000-000	COTTAGE PRINCE 23 (Mrs K Thomas) J Quinn 8-1	T Williams	85
13	(2)	205305	DOWN THE YARD 17 (F) (G Whiting) M Chapman 7-12	S Sanders	88
14	(9)	00-000	TOTALLY DIFFERENT 23 (V) (T Morris) G Oldroyd 7-10	N Carlisle	–

BETTING: 6-1 Gilling Dancer, Lapu-Lapu, Gool Lee Shay, 7-1 Contract Bridge, 8-1 Cottage Prince, 10-1 Angus McCoatup, 12-1 Falcon's Flame, 14-1 others

1995: ALLTIME DANCER 9-0 K Fallon (2-1 fav) Mrs J Ramsden 8 ran

FORM FOCUS

FALCON'S FLAME beat Gulf Of Siam 1¾l in 14-runner apprentice jockeys' handicap at Beverley (1m 100yd, good to firm) on penultimate start, with CONTRACT BRIDGE (7lb better off) about 2¾l 6th. GOOL LEE SHAY 1½l 2nd of 8 to Lucky Revenge in apprentice jockeys' maiden handicap at Thirsk (7f, good to firm). RICHARD HOUSE LAD about 4½l 5th of 20 to How Could-I in selling handicap at Nottingham (1m, good to firm). SEEKING DESTINY about 6¼l 4th of 16 to Barrack Yard in handicap at Southwell (AW, 7f).
Selection: GILLING DANCER

SAILING: CHALLENGE OF COWES WEEK TESTS MORE THAN JUST COMPETITORS

Officers under the gun when fleet's in

Edward Gorman

takes a look behind the scenes at world's premier regatta

FROM the vantage point of the Platform on the medieval granite battlements of Cowes Castle, home of the Royal Yacht Squadron since 1857, hundreds of yachts could be seen carving their way through a sparkling Solent in a fresh westerly breeze yesterday, on a perfect day for racing.

Along the north shore, the 80ft maxis were running down *past Stone Point under colour*ful spinnakers. Behind came the Class 1 boats, vying with the maxis for honours in the Britannia Cup. Mixed in with the chasing pack was the 22ft International Etchells fleet, dwarfed by the bigger yachts around it.

Closer, but still half a mile from the guns below the Platform, the Sigma 33 class was approaching the Black Group start line, inshore of West Bramble buoy. In the foreground, the International Dragon fleet was milling about, waiting for its five-minute gun.

Sir Graham Wilkinson, timekeeper for the day and one of 25 race officers working *under* the *awning on* the battlements, declared: "One minute to the Class 3 Channel Handicap ten-minute gun; International Dragon five-minute gun and Sigma 33 start." Rupert Cottrell, the gunner, pressed the button to fire the starting cannon, which *boomed* out across the Solent in a puff of white smoke.

The Sigmas were off — but some were over the line early, *signalled by a second gun* from Cottrell. They were spotted, however, by the the line officers, led by Peter Rountree, under the overall supervision of Anthony Matusch, the principal race officer. Behind the battlements, in the Squadron ballroom, video footage of the *line* was also being checked.

Getting 849 yachts away at the biggest regatta in the world *is no mean feat and it* has taken the Royal Yacht Squadron and the officers of the Cowes Combined Clubs (CCC) some years to perfect it. Every morning this week, from 10.20 onwards, 26 races at Skandia Life Cowes Week begin in sequence, with starts every five minutes for 2¼ hours.

The race officers have to set courses that offer every fleet challenging racing and that are suited to the wind and tidal conditions of the day. Then each class has to get *away with every starter identi*fied in advance.

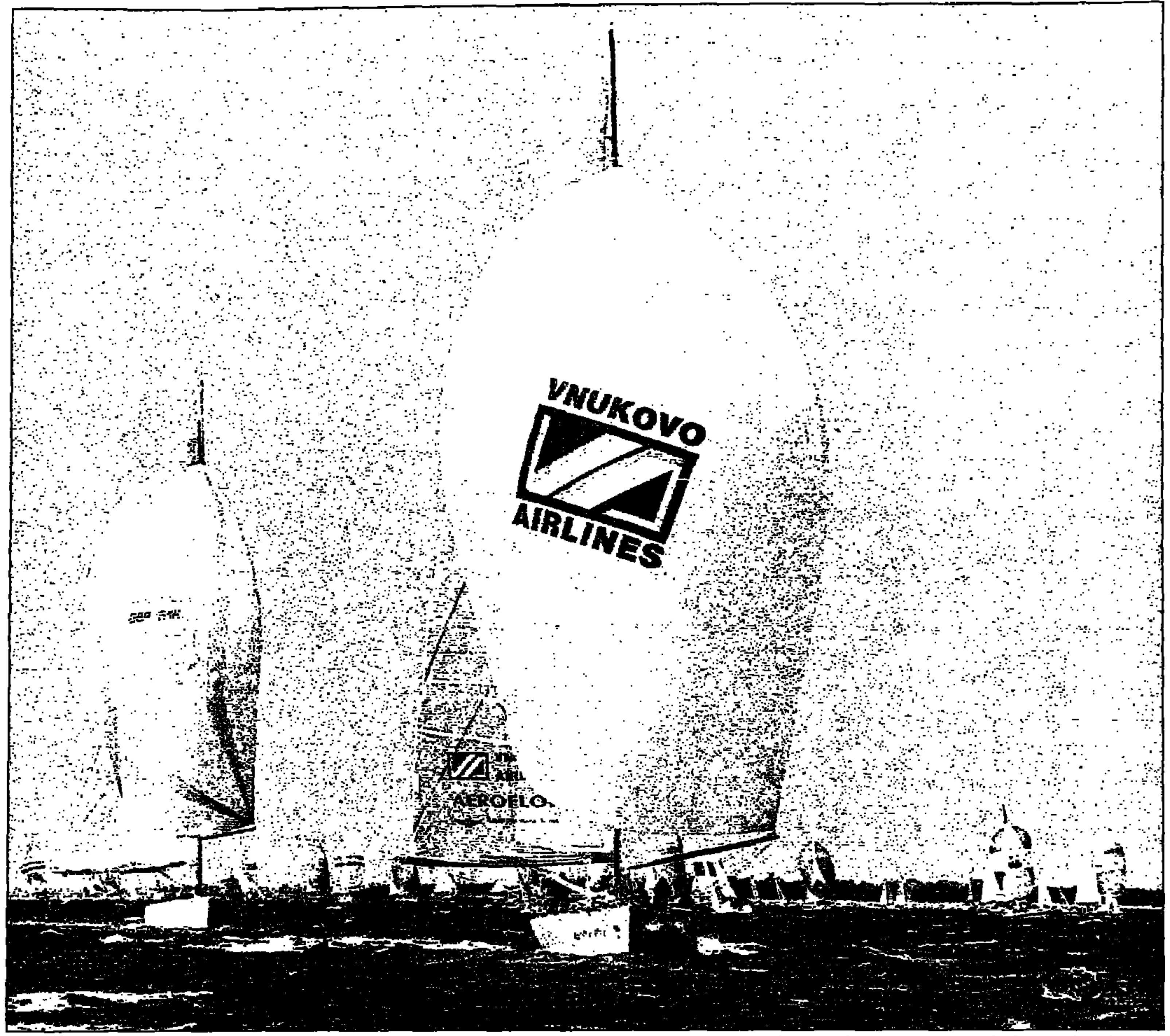
Class flags are raised and lowered, boards showing courses put up and down, starting guns fired and information conveyed to competing yachts over the radio. At the finish, the first three boats in each *class, which often ap*proach the line in a confusing mêlée, get a gun each and all finishers have to be timed and logged.

With so many yachts on the water, the CCC operates separate start lines, with half the fleet starting in the northern or Black Group sector from the Squadron to West Bramble, and half in the southern or White Group sector. Though the arrangement makes the starting process more efficient, it also requires officers, *watching through binoculars, to be* eagle-eyed when yachts can be up to 1¼ miles away.

Captain Dan Bradby, the secretary of the CCC, was among those supervising the operation yesterday. "It's basically 150 years' experience which has built up over time," he said as the gun sounded to start the Redwing fleet.

"We have, however, become much more professional in the last few years. *It is still down* to the individual to see what is going on and then take a decision, but we do use all *sorts of equipment to help* them decide and get the right answer."

Brigadier John Simpson, chief radio officer, who had just got away the last and biggest class, the X-One Design fleet, put it down to the quiet efficiency of yachtsmen *working for yachtsmen.* "The racing is run for the people on the water. The great thing is they are all amateurs but they do it thoroughly professionally," he said, as they took the briefest rest — before the first Britannia Cup winners had them back in action.


GILL ALLEN

Grand Mistral, the first Russian boat to enter the Cowes competition, sails up the Solent with its spinnaker out, ahead of *Longobarda*

Lennon profits from calm conditions

By Edward Gorman
SAILING CORRESPONDENT

RACING in the Glenfiddich Melges 24 fleet is starting to hot up at Skandia Life Cowes Week, with three or four boats capable of taking the title. The favourite is still Mike Lennon, the national champion on *Raw Hyde*, after his third win in the series yesterday.

After the storm of Tuesday that caused the dismasting of three boats and damage to five others that ran aground, the fleet enjoyed perfect conditions yesterday with Lennon finishing ahead of *Russell Peters, the Ultra 30* skipper, on *Ancaster*, in second, and Steve Goacher, the Flying Fifteen national champion, on *Snickers Workwear*, in third.

However, the overall leader remains David Bedford, the three-times J24 national champion, on *Glenfiddich I*. After two third and two fourth places, and revelling in sailing in the storm on Tuesday, Bedford has been consistent, but knows he needs to take risks to beat Lennon.

*"Mike is very fast down*wind," he said. "We are going to have to get a bit more adventurous and throw a couple of touchdowns. We are hoping for a real foam-up on Friday when a big weather system is expected. No one else can afford to get smashed up because their discards are gone."

In the Britannia Cup, in which the maxis and Class 1 yachts raced together, the honours went to Jocelyn Waller's BH-41 *Silk 2*, ahead of *Chris Little's new Farr 45, Bounder*.

Pete Jones, of Farr International, who was crewing aboard *Bounder*, said that the boat was always going to find it hard against the BH-41s. "It was a very good race," he said. "The only thing we lacked was help from the Channel Handicap system. We had to give the BH-41s six minutes an hour, which is punitive."

RESULTS FROM COWES

SKANDIA LIFE COWES WEEK: Royal Yacht Squadron: Britannia Cup, Maxi and CHS Class one: 1, Silk 2, (J Waller); 2, Bounder (C Little), 3, Wolf (G Williams). CHS Class two: 1, Mustang Sally (J McWilliam); 2, Pointe North (D Waiter); 3, Lion (T Canning). CHS Class three: 1, *Northern Child (P and D Collins)*; 2, J'Ronimo (J Grindall); 3, Billy Mac Whizz (R Cameron Davies). CHS Class four: 1, Passegeule (I Buze); 2, Raw Hyde II (I Gray); 3, Caroline (M Delbreil). CHS Class five: 1, Starborn 2, (P Dickson), 2, Addict (I Handley); 3, Touchwood (M Jephcott). CHS Class six: 1, Kandoo (C McKeon); 2, Shallot (M Moody), 3, Slinky Malinki (C Marsh). ISC Handicap: 1, Debonair (D Guy), 2, Jazz (P Ogden), 3, Utona (D Steele). Sportsboats: 1, Pink Projection (S Thomas); 2, J Crazy (N Harrington), 3, The Bull 1000 (K Sproul). *Melges 24: 1, Raw Hyde (M Lennon)*; 2, Ancasta (C Little). 3, Snickers (D Clark). Etchells: 1, Yes! (A Gosling), 2, Fuzzy Duck III (P Woodman); 3, Moonlight (P Wickens). X99: 1, Exotist (H van Dalen), 2, Exile (P Morton); 3, Panic IV (P Leth). Sigma 38: 1, Solent Picnus (B van Bredenbeek), 2, Yeoman XXVIII (D Aisher), 3, Amaryllis Of Dart (Britannia Royal Naval College). Sigma 33: 1, Honey of Bosham (J Platt); 2, Shadowfax (J Nelson), 3, Auditrae (D Harckham). Daring: 1, Dauntless (G Peckham), 2, Decanter (J Preston), 3, Doublet (R Syms). Dragon: 1, Gaia (K Skelsey); 2, *Ruyjin (R Perkins)*; 3, *Spitfire (K Freivokh)*. Sonata: 1, Sonic (M and E Jaffe), 2, Andante (R and J Wheeler); 3, Pizzicato (Dr T and J White). J24: 1, Fruitcakes (J Bullock); 2, Jeepers (P Owen), 3, Bijoux (G Morris). Redwing: 1, Lady Laetitia (W Clegg); 2, Skua (R Morrison); 3, Quad (J Peel). Sunfast 36: 1, Sunsail Bravo (C Gordon), 2, Sunsail Oscar (D Mueller) 3, Sunsail Hotel (T Barclay). Sunbeam: 1, Danny (R Wickens); 2, Polly (J Money); 3, Harmony (J Maxwell). Swallow: 1, Boomerang (J Buckwell); 2, Avocet (J *Houghton)*; 3, *Goosander (J Upton)*. Mermaid: 1, Halluf (M Parr), 2, Rosemary (N Dobbs), 3, Sirena (T Love). Contessa 32: 1, Merak II (N Bradley), 2, Red Apple (M Jaffe) 3, Wight Rabbit (P Ralls). Squib: 1, Thrifty (P Dixon); 2, Satu (D Hewitt), 3, Lizwiz (J Murch)

ROWING

Juniors in need of Pinsent's inspiration

By Mike Rosewell
ROWING CORRESPONDENT

MATTHEW PINSENT is due at the world championships at Strathclyde today. The double Olympic champion arrived in London from Atlanta on Tuesday morning and immediately rang Scotland to say: "I must see the British junior team. They are the Olympians of tomorrow."

It was junior day yesterday and, with only two of Britain's 11 crews avoiding the repechages, Pinsent's inspiration could be welcome. British youngsters were clearly finding life tough with a series of low places before the women's coxless four *lightened the* gloom with a first place, and direct qualification for Saturday's final.

They were without the support of Mark Banks, the chief junior coach, in the last 500 metres when they overtook the United States. Banks having been catapulted from his bicycle in a collision with a German coach. Banks would have noted that the British *winning time was slower than* four crews in the other heat.

If the junior women's four were in an easy heat, the junior men's coxless combination, the British lead boat, found themselves in an apparent final rehearsal. They finished third, and qualified for the semis, behind the highly-rated Italy and Germany, but ahead of the equally rated Australia and Denmark. The *other heats were much slower*, and Martin Orviss, their coach, was clearly relieved. "Thankfully, we did what we had to do," he said.

There were high hopes before the championships for Britain's two junior quad sculls, both with plenty of pedigree athletes on board, but both will face repechages. The junior men's boat allowed Denmark and Norway too *much leeway in the first 1,000* metres in the prevailing tail wind and never threatened the qualifying first place.

The British *junior men's* eight missed a direct passage to their final by .02 of a second. Again they gave two opponents, Russia and the United States, an advantage to halfway. They picked off the United States in the third 500 metres, but narrowly failed to catch *Russia. All three of the* British lightweight crews involved in repechages progressed to their semi-finals.

CRICKET

Pakistan keep success in the family

By Ivo Tennant

OUNDLE SCHOOL (South Africa won toss): Pakistan beat South Africa by three wickets

BY THE turn of the century, *familiar* names will be to the fore in Pakistan. Bazid Khan, Imran Qadir and Faisal Iqbal, the immediate family of three of the country's greatest players, should all be Test cricketers. They are beneficiaries of a restructuring of the game at school level.

This, at least, *is the opinion* of Agha Zahid, who is coaching Pakistan in the Lombard under-15 World Cup. The *emphasis* on schools cricket has been heightened since Majid Khan, Bazid's father, became chief executive of the Board of Control. "In under-developed countries, in which boys have fewer means, they *mature more quickly*," Zahid said. "It is important that they build their strength and learn manners at this crucial age."

Majid and Abdul Qadir, who named his son after his *former* captain, Imran Khan, have yet to watch this Pakistan team, which did well to beat Australia on Tuesday. Captained by Faisal Iqbal, Javed Miandad's nephew, they are as gifted as any team from their tract of the subcontinent is expected to be.

Neither Bazid Khan nor Imran Qadir, who bowls leg breaks and googlies with an uncannily similar bound to *the crease as his father*, took a wicket yesterday. But Faisal made a splendid, unbeaten century against a South Africa side that is among the strongest in the two groups.

The extent to which the United Cricket Board looks to the future was evident in the presence yesterday of Bob Woolmer, the South Africa coach. "One of the reasons why I have come over is to assess *where we stand*," he said. "One of the main problems we face is the standards in the townships, although more cricketers are coming through and there was no window dressing in the selection of this party."

Woolmer believes that 15 is the right age to begin playing international cricket. "It is an incentive for 13 and 14-year-olds, whose interest must be retained so they do not take up basketball instead."

OTHER RESULTS: Holland 85 (N Baker 3-8), Australia 88-1 (B Green 46 not out). Canada 83, Zimbabwe 317-6.

SHEEHAN on BRIDGE

By Robert Sheehan, bridge correspondent

The 1997 Daily Bridge Calendar has a hand for each day of the year, contributed by various well-known experts. Today's is by Bobby Wolff, ex-Dallas Ace and *many* times world champion. How do you play the trump combination? Try just to look at the North-South cards.

Dealer South **Love all** **Rubber bridge**

North:
♠K J 7
♥8 6 4 2
♦8 7 2
♣J 9 5

West:
♠Q 10 5 4
♥K
♦10 9 4 3
♣7 6 4 3

East:
♠A 9 6 2
♥A 10 7
♦J 6 5
♣10 8 2

South:
♠8 3
♥Q J 9 5 3
♦A K Q
♣A K Q

S	W	N	E
1 H	Pass	2 H	Pass
4 H	All Pass		

Contract: Four Hearts by South. Lead: four of spades

West leads the four of spades, dummy's jack forces East's ace, and you win the spade return with dummy's king. You lead a low trump and East plays the seven. What card should you play?

The choice is between an honour and the nine of hearts. If the missing trumps are split 2-2, it makes no difference how South plays: he will lose only two trumps and one spade.

If the trumps are 3-1, no play will win if West holds ace, king and ten of hearts. If West holds a singleton ace or king, the play of the nine of hearts wins. If West holds the singleton ten, the play of an honour wins. Since a singleton ace or king with West is twice as likely as the singleton ten, the odds favour the finesse of the nine, by 2-1.

You should familiarise yourself with this reasoning and remember it. It will come in handy when you play this *combination* correctly and partner demands to know why you lost to a singleton ten.

The calendar strikes me as good value for money. If you mention *The Times* you can get it at an Early Bird price of £13.99 post free from Mr Bridge, Ryden Grange, Bisley, Surrey, GU21 2TH.

☐ Robert Sheehan writes on bridge Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

KEENE on CHESS

By Raymond Keene
CHESS CORRESPONDENT

Sadler leads

The grandmaster Matthew Sadler, the defending champion, is in the joint lead in this year's British *Championship in Nottingham*, after winning a tough game against Chris Duncan. The other two grandmasters present, Mark Hebden and John Emms, were *held to draws by Peter Hempson* and Simon Knott respectively. Meanwhile the campaign of Luke McShane suffered a setback when he succumbed to a powerful *queenside attack in the following* game.

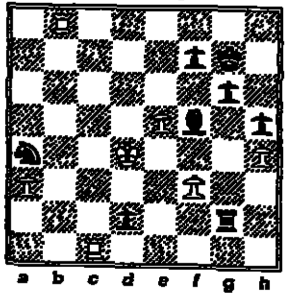
White: Luke McShane
Black: Richard Pert
British Championship
Nottingham, August 1996

Sicilian Defence

1	e4	c5
2	Nf3	d6
3	d4	cxd4
4	Nxd4	Nf6
5	Nc3	g6
6	Be3	Bg7
7	f3	0-0
8	Bc4	Nc6
9	Qd2	Bd7
10	0-0-0	Rc8
11	Bb3	Ne5
12	h4	h5
13	Bh6	Bxh6
14	Qxh6	Rxc3
15	bxc3	Qa5
16	Kb2	Rc8
17	Qd2	Qb6
18	Ka1	a5
19	a3	Qc5
20	Qc1	a4
21	Ba2	Nc4
22	Bxc4	Qxc4
23	Qd2	e5
24	Rb1	exd4
25	cxd4	b5
26	Rhc1	d5
27	e5	Ne8
28	c3	Bf5
29	Rb4	Qd3
30	Qe1	Ng7
31	Kb2	Ne6
32	Qd1	Rxc3
33	Qxd3	Rxd3
34	Rxb5	Rd2+
35	Kc3	Rxd4
36	Rb4	Rd3+
37	Kb2	Rd2+
38	Kc3	Rd3+
39	Kb2	Rd2+
40	Kc3	Rxg2
41	Rxa4	d4+
42	Kb3	d3
43	Kc3	Nc5
44	Ra8+	Kg7
45	Rb8	Na4+
46	Kd4	d2

White resigns

Diagram of final position



Leading scores

After two rounds, the lead in the British Championship is shared by *five players:* Sadler, Chris Ward, Andrew Martin, Simon Ansell and Richard Pert, all of whom have a maximum two points.

Times book

The Times Winning Moves 2 contains 240 chess puzzles from international grandmaster Raymond Keene's daily column in *The Times*, and is available now from bookshops or from B. T. Batsford Ltd (tel: 01376 321276) at £6.99 plus postage and packing.

☐ *Raymond* Keene writes on chess Monday to Friday in Sport and in the Weekend section on Saturday.

WORD-WATCHING

By Philip Howard

OXER
a. A thickset fence
b. A knock-out punch
c. A slaughterman

PATCHOULI
a. A Turkish pirate
b. A sweet dumpling
c. An odoriferous plant

PHILISTER
a. The upper lip
b. An uncultivated townee
c. To barrack

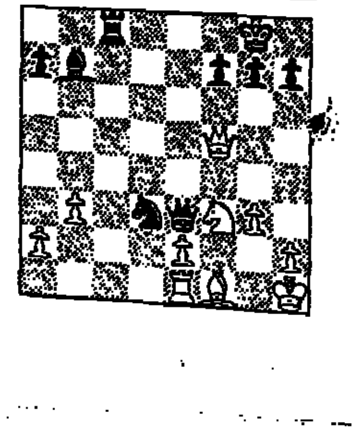
NEUF
a. New boy at Bryanston
b. A sword-knot
c. A Newfoundlander

Answers on page 42

WINNING MOVE

By Raymond Keene

White to play. This position is from the game Uhlmann — Pahtz, Halle 1984. In this interesting position Black's knight appears secure, as 1 exd3 and 1 Qxd3 are well met by 1 ... Bxf3+. However, White has a clever way to exploit the hanging nature of the black pieces. Can you see it?



Solution on page 42

LEGAL & PUBLIC NOTICES

0171-782 7344

PUBLIC NOTICES

TRANSPORT ACT 1968

The British Waterways Board (Sheffield and Tinsley Canal) (Reclassification) Order 1996

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Secretary of State for the Environment intends to make the above-named Order under section 104(3) of the TRansport Act 1968.

The Order would add to the list of cruising waterways, in Part II of Schedule 12 to the 1968 Act, the Sheffield and Tinsley Canal which at present is comprised in the undertaking of the British Waterways *Board as a reminder waterway.*

Copies of the Order may be inspected at the offices of the British Waterways Board at Sheffield Basin, South Quay, Sheffield; at Mill Lane, Mill Gate, Newark, Notts; at Doncaster Wharf, Greyfriars Road, Doncaster; and at Dock Street, Leeds. Copies of the Order may be obtained from the Department of the Environment, Environment Agency Sponsorship and Navigation, at the address given below.

Objection to the Order may be made by notice in writing stating the grounds of objection, to the Secretary of State for the Environment, Department of the Environment, Environment Agency Sponsorship and Navigation Division, Room A236A, Romney House, 43 Marsham Street, London SW1P 3PY and received by him no later than 2 September 1996.

B GLICKSMAN

An Assistant Secretary in the Department of the Environment

24 July 1996

Ref No. E1373/01/EASN

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Congregation Sisters of the Finding of Jesus in the Temple
Scheme for the alteration of the objects of the charity.
Reference: AS-229049/38817
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Mount Petre Kramer, 29 Weymouth Street, London W1N 4LQ or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting the reference above.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: Distributive Industries Training Trust
Schemes varying trust deed and in the matter of certain Funds
Reference: JM/15770/CD(7)
The Commissioners propose to make a Scheme for this charity. A copy of the draft Scheme can be seen at 10 Norwich Street London EC4A 1BD reference MV or can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to *Charity Commission, Woodfield* House, Tangier, Taunton, Somerset, TA1 4BL, quoting the above reference. Comments or representations can be made within one month from today.

LEGAL NOTICES

UNITED MARKETING SERVICES (KINGSWAY) LTD
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Section 98 of The Insolvency Act 1986 that a meeting of the creditors of the above named Company will be held at Sherlock House, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1 on 20th August 1996 at 12.00 noon for the purposes provided for in Section 98 et seq. A list of the names and addresses of the above Company's Creditors can be inspected at the offices of Lesham Crossley & Davis, 7 Kenrick Place, London, W1H 3FF, between the hours of 10.00 am and 4.00 pm on the two business days preceding the Meeting of Creditors.
Dated this 2nd August 1996
MRS K V PATEL, Director

LEGAL NOTICES

TO: MICHAEL COVENTRY
TAKE NOTICE that an Action has been commenced against you in the High Court Chancery Division CH1996 P2995 by Raymond Pullen of 143 Pembroke Avenue Enfield Middlesex EN1 4EY and Michael Pullen of 14 Oxley Road Waltham Abbey Essex in which the Plaintiffs claim is for:
1) An Order that the appointment of Michael Coventry as Executor of the Will of the Testator George Robert Pullen deceased be terminated.
2) An Order that RAYMOND PULLEN be appointed Executor of the Will of the Testator George Robert Pullen deceased in the place of MICHAEL COVENTRY
3) That provision be made for the costs of the application.
4) Further or other relief And that it has been ordered that service of the Originating Summons in the said Action on you be effected by this advertisement
AND FURTHER TAKE NOTICE that you must within 14 days from the publication of this advertisement inclusive of the day of such publication acknowledge service of the said Originating Summons by completing a prescribed form of acknowledgement of service which may be obtained on request from the Solicitor whose name and address appear below otherwise judgement may be entered against you. Dated 5th August 1996.
Barnes & Partners (Plaintiffs Solicitors)
103 Crossbrook Street, Cheshunt Waltham Cross, Herts EN8 8LY
Tel 01992 626366.

CHARITY COMMISSION
Charity: The Congregation Sisters of Charity and Christian Instruction of Nevers
Scheme for the alteration of the objects of the charity.
Reference: AS-229299/38819
The Charity Commissioners have made a Scheme for this charity. A copy can be seen for the next month at Mount Petre Kramer, 29 Weymouth Street, London W1N 4LQ or a copy can be obtained by sending a stamped addressed envelope to The Charity Commission, St Alban's House, 57-60 Haymarket, London, SW1Y 4QX, quoting the reference above.

In the matter of
The Insolvency Act 1986
And in the matter of
International Container Line Limited
(In Administrative Receivership)

Notice is hereby given pursuant to Section 48 of the Insolvency Act that a meeting of the creditors of the above company will be held at the offices of Price Waterhouse No.1 London Bridge London SE1 9QL on the 30 August 1996 at 11.00 am for the purposes of receiving the report of the joint administrative receivers and if creditors wish to do so to appoint a creditors' committee.

Dated this 6th day of August 1996
EJ Ellis
Joint Administrative Receiver
International Container Line Limited
Notes
1 A creditor will be entitled to vote at the meeting only if details of the amount claimed to be due from the company have been lodged with the receivers (marked for the attention of Charles Whinney) at No 1 London Bridge, London SE1 9QL no later than noon on 29 August 1996, and the claim has been admitted in accordance with the Insolvency Rules 1986.

2 Creditors may vote either in person or in proxy and a form of proxy is included herewith. A proxy should be lodged with me, if possible before the meeting.

3 A company may vote either through a representative producing a certified copy of a Board Resolution appointing him or by proxy.

4 A secured creditor is entitled to vote only in respect of the balance (if any) of his debt after deducting the value of his security as selected by him. He must lodge in accordance with note 1 a statement giving particulars of his security, the date on which it was given and the value on which he assesses it. Creditors who are wholly secured are not entitled to be represented or to vote.

1996

[illegible]

CRICKET

Whitaker's world threatened by untimely injuries

By Simon Wilde

SUCH are their *fitness* worries that Leicestershire, leaders of the Britannic Assurance *championship*, have sent a party of 15 players to Swansea for their match with Glamorgan, that starts today. James Whitaker, the captain, is among the walking *wounded* and he must be hoping that the county's title challenge is *not about to collapse as* it did at about the same stage of the season two years ago.

The similarities between the campaigns are striking as far as *Leicestershire are* concerned. The county began that season, as they did this, as unfancied contenders, but by mid-August stood as mathematically the best placed team. Then, they were *nine* points behind the leaders, Warwickshire, with *a game in hand*; now they are three points ahead of Yorkshire, who alone among the top six do not play in this round.

Two years ago Leicestershire's challenge blew up in their faces when they lost three *successive matches* and their discipline.

One of those defeats was to Glamorgan in Wales. Whitaker, recovering from a bout of *influenza, averaged less* than 25 during those crucial closing weeks. Now, in his first season of captaincy, he faces a similar personal dilemma, while seeking to regain fitness after a torn calf muscle.

His new-ball attack looks *thin. Millns is* carrying a side strain and Mullally is with the England party at Headingley. Against that, Glamorgan's key seam bowler, Watkin, *who might have done* a good job for England in the second Test, has a swollen knee and is a doubtful starter. If Leicestershire *do slip up, there* is no shortage of counties poised to move up at their expense.

Apart from Surrey, whose match with Lancashire began yesterday. Essex, with three *straight* wins behind them since they were beaten by Leicestershire by an innings, take on Somerset at Taunton, their chances significantly enhanced by *the absence from* the Somerset attack of Caddick, also on England duty. Kent, who lie equal fifth *with Derbyshire, could also* benefit from playing weakened opponents. They are at Northampton, where the home side is experiencing a subdued *championship* season after the excitement of last year. Local spirits may be lowered by the continued absence of Bailey, the captain, and Warren. Northamptonshire's batting resources are so plentiful though that Kent can *take nothing* for granted, *for* David Sales is available to resume a championship career that began with a second-ball nought and an unbeaten double-century. Kent must make do without the injured Ealham.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	Bt	Bl	Pts
Leics (7)	11	6	1	4	35	37	180
Yorkshire (8)	12	6	4	2	37	38	177
Surrey (12)	11	5	1	5	36	40	171
Essex (5)	11	5	2	4	37	35	164
Derbyshire (14)	11	5	2	4	35	35	162
Kent (18)	11	5	1	5	32	35	162
Sussex (15)	11	5	4	2	21	35	142
Somerset (9)	10	4	3	3	22	38	133
Worcs (10)	11	3	3	5	28	40	131
Middlesex (2)	11	4	5	2	19	38	127
Glamorgan (16)	10	4	4	2	31	24	125
Warwicks (1)	10	4	4	2	22	31	123
Hampshire (13)	10	2	5	3	27	34	102
Gloucs (6)	11	2	4	5	14	38	99
Lancashire (4)	10	1	3	6	32	27	93
Northants (3)	11	1	5	5	26	35	92
Notts (11)	10	1	4	5	25	31	87
Durham (17)	12	0	8	4	17	44	73

(Last season's positions in brackets)

Derbyshire are also away from home, at Hove, where Sussex will be feeling cock-a-hoop at having undermined *Yorkshire's title hopes in Eastbourne* last week. Derbyshire can expect another seamer's pitch and without Cork and Harris, who is still unfit, their attack will be hard-pressed to outperform Drakes, Lewry and Giddins.

Sussex, *in any case, are not* quite out of the championship race themselves. They are in *seventh place, although the* 38-point gap between themselves and Leicestershire may take some closing. However, they have yet to play another of the teams above them, Essex. By defeating both Derbyshire and Essex, Sussex *would do themselves two very* large favours. They cannot count on their rivals cancelling themselves out because of the top six teams, only Essex and Yorkshire, who meet at Headingley on August 29, remain to play each other.

Another echo of 1994 will occur at Edgbaston, where Durham take the field against Warwickshire without John Morris, who averages only 17 *in the championship this season* and has been dropped.

Morris scored 204 on the ground two years ago, the highest innings in Durham's brief first-class history, although it was overshadowed by a slightly larger one for the *champions-to-be* from Brian Lara.

Screen tests straining umpires' credibility

JOHN WOODCOCK

ROSS KINNAIRD/ALLSPORT

Francis, of Sri Lanka, one of the officials whose decisions have been queried

By the time Pakistan had disposed of England at Lord's last week, Peter Willey must have felt that batting even against the most menacing attack West Indies ever fielded, *which he did to some effect in* the 1980s, was less harrowing than umpiring a modern Test match. With his every decision being replayed and scrutinised on a distended screen, as happened at Lord's, the lot of the Test umpire is fast becoming intolerable, and I use the word advisedly.

The overall standard of *umpiring is much the same* today as it has been for the last 50 years. It is just being made to look worse. Outside this country the job is done, as it invariably *has been, by men* with no playing *ability* to speak of, which is almost *inevitably a disadvantage. It* is no coincidence that the overseas umpire most highly regarded at the moment is Srinivas Venkataraghavan, who played Test cricket for India and is, therefore, an exception to the rule.

But the dreaded slow-motion replay spares no one. Our own old pros — the Willeys and Birds and Shepherds — are as much at its *mercy, if not quite as often* refuted by it, as Venkat or Steve Bucknor (West Indies), Darrell Hair (Australia) and Kandiah Francis (Sri Lanka), who have all had a difficult time standing in the Test matches here this summer.

Before the arrival of modern technology, it was considered out *of order for a reporter* to criticise an umpire's decision, other perhaps than inferentially. "Bloggs was judged leg-before," gave a veiled message; but except in the case of an obviously howling error, it was as far as most of *us ever went. Now, when* millions have seen a palpably wrong decision shown over and over again on television, the truth has to be told. It is as though the umpire has been taken off the list of protected birds. He is seen now as fair game, and that is a most seditious development.

The legendary Frank Chester would have had to give no more than three or four decisions all season, if that, involving catches at short leg or silly-point, when the issue was whether or not the ball had come off bat as well as pad. In *today's game they are the* bane of an umpire's life. At Lord's, there must have been a dozen of them on the last afternoon alone. The development, 40-odd years ago, of the forward prop, the bat half hidden behind the pad; the introduction of helmets, bringing the close fielders *closer still; more, and more* frenzied, appealing; and the fact that batsmen are no longer expected to walk when they know they are out have all contributed to this. Umpiring was never more difficult, but the visual proof of so *many unquestionably* dodgy decisions being made does suggest that the age-old maxim, whereby the batsman should always be given the benefit of the doubt, is no longer as ingrained as it was.

Since the big screen first appeared on a cricket ground, for the Boxing Day Test match between England and Australia in *Melbourne in* 1982, it has become gradually less responsibly, or anyway less considerately, operated. In the early days there was always someone at or near the controls conversant enough to know what it would be advisable *not* to replay. This has now lapsed, so that when at Lord's the hapless Mr Bucknor gave Nick Knight out leg-before in England's first innings, the crowd were at once allowed to see for themselves how in all probability the ball would have missed another set of stumps. Is this really wise, or fair on the umpire or conducive to the right atmosphere? I hardly think so.

England's collapse on the last afternoon at Lord's was a sad affair, certainly — but how brilliantly Waqar Younis and Mushtaq Ahmed bowled; Waqar with late, inswinging boomerangs off a full length, Mushtaq with unremitting *accuracy and fizzing, bouncing* wrist spin. I was surprised to see no allusion to Richie Benaud's *match-winning*, indeed Ashes-winning, spell at Old Trafford in 1961, when, like Mushtaq now, he switched to bowling round the *wicket more in hope than* expectation.

> 'The dreaded slow-motion replay which spares no one'

Used as a defensive ploy, the leg break bowled into the rough from round the wicket is an out-and-out curse; exploited in the way that it was by Mushtaq and Benaud it is good, *resourceful* cricket. I can think of no batsman from Sir Donald Bradman downwards who would have gone into bat against Waqar and Mushtaq last Monday week and not had problems: or of any umpire, for that matter, who could possibly have got every answer right.

THE LEADING 100 ENTRIES IN THE TIMES INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET GAME

Pos	Team (Player's name)	Pts
1	Eatons Goats 2 (J Eaton)	14652
2	Scoffshire A (P Schofield)	13989
3	Spread Eaglets 3rd XI (P Stewart)	13899
4	Eatons Goats 3 (J Eaton)	13849
5	Eatons Goats (J Eaton)	13738
6	K P Allstars 3 (KR Patel)	13589
7	Opportunists 3rd XI (Stewart)	13574
8	Kalb's Corkers 2 (N Kalb)	13573
9	Opportunists 4th XI (P Stewart)	13562
10	*Caroline A (A Luckhurst)*	*13513*
11	Bowled Marilyn (H Paul)	13423
12	Opportunists 1st XI (P Stewart)	13393
13	The Ton Machine (N Kalb)	13312
14	Six Hitters (N Marchant)	13301
15	Torridge Tops (C Hulbert)	13281
16	Ruvanssit XI (W Rebanshan)	13246
17	Wakering Wonders (D Brunt)	13219
18	Caroline 1 (A Luckhurst)	13173
19	Ricardos Marvels (R Williams)	13139
=20	M C M (M Poswal)	13125
=20	XI Gladiators (D Fungley)	13125
22	Likely Lads (L Mallett)	13112
23	Caroline C (A Luckhurst)	13106
24	Cheadle High School (M Roberts)	13098
25	Hollioakes (M Ward)	13097
26	Otessey 4 (M Long)	13093
27	Cormans Balls 2 (D Blackburn)	13091
28	Taunton A (J Hunt)	13078
29	Perth Finders A (P Stewart)	13075
30	—	13065
31	G B's First XI (G Brooks)	13058
32	Caroline D (A Lockhurst)	13057
33	Teddy 3 (B Bear)	13052
34	*Maxe Walker's XI (A Wright)*	*13029*
35	Barbret Rangers (JS Hutchinson)	13025
36	Tractorwoll XI (CJ Hodge)	13011
37	Taff's Tigers (J Short)	13000
38	*Johnson's First XI (RJ Johnson)*	*12977*
39	Bring Back Botham (K Booth)	12974
40	Primeshire (C Holburt)	12972
41	Hunt 4 $10,000 A (J Hunt)	12971
42	The Run Rats (Mrs L Tattoo)	12929
43	The Runwicks (J Davenport)	12928
44	Odissy Three (M Long)	12924
=45	Teddy Two (B Bear)	12914
=45	John Hunt XI (J Hunt)	12914
47	Ataturks (P Stewart)	12911
=48	Lindas Loosers (L Tattoo)	12908
=48	Bernie's Allsorts 11 (BE Howes)	12908
50	Heavens 5th XI (RJ Wall)	12901
51	Pannal Beaters (JS Hutchinson)	12898
52	Johns Boys 3 (M Jones)	12874
53	Thingy Bob (AZA Ghani)	12860
54	Freds Team (R Price)	12859
55	Dee's Woodfellows (J Glover)	12850
56	Webbies Wombles (AR Howse)	12848
57	Brooks Battin Bunnys (G Brookes)	12839
58	Stars Wars 3 (Z Ali)	12816
59	Jones Boys Two (M Jones)	12814
60	Outside Edge (G Brooks)	12798
61	Hunt 4 $10,000 E (J Hunt)	12792
62	GT Old Boys (MA Trovell)	12791
63	Spike Thomas XI (TE Webb)	12783
64	Adiffy 1 (M Long)	12780
65	Heavens Fourth XI (RJ Wall)	12775
66	Breakfast Boys (J Goodman)	12771
67	The Boundery Boys (C Toby)	12770
68	Haye Bales Of A Time (JR Stanley)	12769
69	Someone Who Was (M Nixon)	12768
70	Duck Donald (H Paul)	12760
71	She Loves Other Sun (DA Jackson)	12755
72	England Shadows (D Finlay)	12754
73	Jones XI Wonders (Dr M Jaseja)	12744
74	Botham For England (K Booth)	12743
75	Pele's Panthers (P Williams)	12741
76	Martina McBride (S Vale)	12735
77	Jones Boys One (ML Jones)	12732
78	Hunt 4 $10,000 F (J Hunt)	12728
79	*Sandwich Stag (I Ellis)*	*12725*
80	Tim's Twisters (GW Corbett)	12717
81	The Wrens (M Hall)	12715
82	(M Borham)	12710
83	*Oddfy 2 (M Long)*	*12703*
84	Rollings Stampum (D Finley)	12694
85	Wednesdayshire (A Hibberd)	12684
86	The Islanders (G Evans)	12682
87	Leather Willows (K Booth)	12677
88	M J S Team 1 (R Slent)	12668
89	D J N 6 (DJ Mead)	12664
90	Clw Dedicated XI (JN Eveling)	12656
91	Beckenham Boys (J Short)	12653
92	Willow Wanderers (PR Stewart)	12645
93	Oh Jiffy Six (M Long)	12633
94	Wig's Wonders (A Wigley-Jones)	12627
95	Leather Willows (K Booth)	12622
96	G CC 1 (G Dolan)	12621
97	Jonos! (DJ Johnson)	12606
98	Funny England (IR Chesworth)	12601
99	Flat Spin 3 (J Hodginson)	12593
100	Pavilion Primos (S Timmins)	12587

INTERACTIVE TEAM CRICKET SCOREBOARD

The scores in brackets are the points scored in the last week: the other scores are the cumulative points scored *since the start of the season. The figures include all* matches completed by August 5. Overseas players are shown in **bold type**. Rising Stars in *italic*.

HOW TO MAKE A TRANSFER IN ITC

The transfer line will open at 6am each Tuesday and will close at 6pm the following Monday. *All transfers made* during this period will be applied to team selectors' teams prior to the commencement of the next first-class match *(transfer times may be altered slightly to accommodate schedule of first-class matches and prior notification will be published in The Times)*. Transfers may only be made by telephone by calling

0891 866 964

A team selector may transfer up to two players in his/her *team per transfer period. Whether you are transferring one* or two players, your team must be rendered correct according to the format of five batsmen, one all-rounder, one wicketkeeper and four bowlers and including one rising star and one overseas player (but no more than one of either) by the end of the call. You may check your team score and position in ITC by calling the ITC Check Line on

0891 774 779

Batsmen (001-135)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
C J Adams (001)	1179	(15)	0	(0)	1179	(15)
G F Archer (002)	494	(0)	0	(0)	494	(0)
M A Atherton (003)	740	(0)	0	(0)	740	(0)
C W J Athey (004)	782	(147)	0	(0)	782	(147)
M Azharuddin (005)	439	(0)	0	(0)	439	(0)
R J Bailey (006)	500	(0)	2	(0)	540	(0)
K J Barnett (007)	906	(96)	11	(0)	1126	(96)
M R Benson (008)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M G Bevan (009)	1225	(25)	4	(0)	1305	(25)
D J Bicknell (010)	599	(0)	13	(0)	859	(0)
D A Blenkiron (011)	296	(0)	0	(0)	296	(0)
P D Bowler (012)	857	(0)	0	(0)	857	(0)
N E Briers (013)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A D Brown (014)	402	(101)	0	(0)	402	(101)
D Byas (015)	772	(77)	0	(0)	772	(77)
S L Campbell (016)	813	(22)	0	(0)	813	(22)
J D Carr (017)	590	(83)	0	(0)	590	(83)
M J Church (018)	249	(0)	8	(0)	409	(0)
P A Cottey (019)	910	(11)	0	(0)	910	(11)
G R Cowdrey (020)	490	(0)	1	(0)	510	(0)
J P Crawley (021)	494	(0)	0	(0)	494	(0)
C D Crowe (022)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R J Cunliffe (023)	252	(0)	0	(0)	252	(0)
T S Curtis (024)	617	(25)	0	(0)	617	(25)
J A Daley (025)	174	(32)	0	(0)	174	(32)
A J Dalton (026)	37	(0)	0	(0)	37	(0)
R I Dawson (027)	79	(0)	1	(0)	99	(0)
M P Dowman (028)	96	(0)	0	(0)	86	(0)
N H Fairbrother (029)	512	(0)	0	(0)	512	(0)
A Flintoff (030)	2	(0)	0	(0)	2	(0)
A Fordham (031)	441	(28)	0	(0)	441	(28)
D P Fulton (032)	656	(29)	1	(0)	676	(29)
J E R Gallian (033)	772	(0)	4	(0)	852	(0)
M W Gatting (034)	659	(0)	0	(0)	659	(0)
N A Gie (035)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G A Gooch (036)	1117	(92)	1	(0)	1137	(92)
K Greenfield (037)	623	(27)	0	(0)	623	(27)
A Habib (038)	627	(20)	0	(0)	627	(20)
J W Hall (039)	330	(9)	0	(0)	330	(9)
T H C Hancock (040)	645	(41)	0	(0)	645	(41)
R J Harden (041)	180	(54)	0	(0)	180	(54)
M E Harvey (042)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A N Hayhurst (043)	224	(0)	1	(0)	244	(0)
G R Haynes (044)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D L Hemp (045)	138	(0)	4	(0)	218	(0)
G A Hick (046)	995	(234)	4	(0)	1075	(234)
A J Hollioake (047)	1095	(0)	11	(0)	1315	(0)
N Hussain (048)	803	(35)	0	(0)	803	(35)
S Hutton (049)	557	(41)	0	(0)	557	(41)
Ijaz Ahmed (050)	391	(29)	0	(0)	391	(29)
Inzamam-ul-Haq (051)	584	(78)	0	(0)	584	(78)
S P James (052)	1133	(235)	0	(0)	1133	(235)
P Johnson (053)	595	(11)	0	(0)	595	(11)
D M Jones (054)	1024	(83)	9	(0)	1204	(83)
V Kambli (055)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M Keech (056)	499	(61)	0	(0)	499	(61)
W S Kendall (057)	469	(25)	0	(0)	469	(25)
G J Kennis (058)	3	(3)	0	(0)	3	(3)
W G Khan (059)	317	(0)	0	(0)	317	(0)
N V Knight (060)	726	(0)	0	(0)	726	(0)
J S Laney (061)	782	(82)	0	(0)	782	(82)
M N Lathwell (062)	718	(13)	1	(0)	738	(13)
S G Law (063)	1298	(9)	7	(0)	1438	(9)
D A Leatherdale (064)	253	(0)	4	(0)	333	(0)
N J Lenham (065)	508	(0)	2	(0)	548	(0)
J J B Lewis (066)	157	(0)	0	(0)	157	(0)
N J Llong (067)	470	(49)	9	(0)	650	(49)
G D Lloyd (068)	787	(0)	0	(0)	787	(0)
J I Longley (069)	6	(0)	0	(0)	6	(0)
M B Loye (070)	603	(73)	0	(0)	603	(73)
M A Lynch (071)	225	(49)	0	(0)	225	(49)
G I Macmillan (072)	80	(14)	0	(0)	80	(14)
D L Maddy (073)	663	(124)	4	(0)	743	(124)
S V Manjrekar (074)	540	(0)	0	(0)	540	(0)
M P Maynard (075)	1032	(42)	0	(0)	1032	(42)
A McGrath (076)	857	(50)	0	(0)	857	(50)
A A Metcalfe (077)	658	(109)	0	(0)	658	(109)
A J Moles (078)	656	(0)	0	(0)	656	(0)
R R Montgomerie (079)	622	(0)	0	(0)	822	(0)
T M Moody (080)	1175	(13)	14	(3)	1455	(73)
H Morris (081)	1036	(140)	0	(0)	1036	(140)
J E Morris (082)	410	(12)	0	(0)	410	(12)
R S M Morris (083)	195	(0)	0	(0)	195	(0)
M D Moxon (084)	712	(12)	0	(0)	712	(12)
[illegible] (085)	105	(0)	1	(0)	125	(0)
T J G O'Gorman (086)	250	(21)	0	(0)	250	(21)
D P Ostler (087)	673	(0)	0	(0)	673	(0)
[illegible] Owen (088)	499	(0)	0	(0)	499	(0)
K A Parsons (089)	192	(30)	2	(1)	232	(50)
T L Penney (090)	970	(0)	0	(0)	870	(0)
P R Pollard (091)	653	(58)	0	(0)	653	(58)
[illegible] (092)	559	(65)	0	(0)	559	(65)
P J Prichard (093)	557	(67)	0	(0)	557	(67)
M R Ramprakash (094)	823	(0)	2	(0)	863	(0)
J D Ratcliffe (095)	380	(91)	5	(2)	490	(131)
D D J Robinson (096)	554	(0)	0	(0)	554	(0)
P E Robinson (097)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R T Robinson (098)	987	(104)	0	(0)	987	(104)
A S Rollins (099)	705	(31)	0	(0)	705	(31)
M A Roseberry (100)	637	(141)	0	(0)	637	(141)
Saeed Anwar (101)	809	(56)	0	(0)	809	(56)
O A Shah (102)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N Shahid (103)	291	(87)	3	(3)	351	(147)
Salim Malik (104)	127	(47)	1	(0)	147	(47)
D J Sales (105)	210	(0)	0	(0)	210	(0)
N S Sidhu (106)	171	(0)	0	(0)	171	(0)
P V Simmons (107)	659	(147)	29	(2)	1239	(187)
A Singh (108)	675	(0)	0	(0)	675	(0)
B F Smith (109)	770	(50)	0	(0)	770	(50)
R A Smith (110)	700	(11)	0	(0)	700	(11)
N J Speak (111)	424	(0)	0	(0)	424	(0)
M P Speight (112)	373	(22)	0	(0)	373	(22)
A J Stewart (113)	671	(0)	0	(0)	671	(0)
I J Sutcliffe (114)	427	(0)	3	(0)	487	(0)
A Symonds (115)	764	(29)	5	(1)	864	(49)
N R Taylor (116)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S R Tendulkar (117)	707	(0)	1	(0)	727	(0)
V P Terry (118)	379	(33)	0	(0)	379	(33)
G P Thorpe (119)	1365	(0)	2	(0)	1405	(0)
S P Titchard (120)	629	(0)	0	(0)	629	(0)
M E Trescothick (121)	479	(178)	0	(0)	479	(178)
T A Tweats (122)	130	(0)	0	(0)	130	(0)
M P Vaughan (123)	835	(7)	9	(0)	1015	(7)
M J Walker (124)	72	(72)	0	(0)	72	(72)
T C Walton (125)	171	(89)	0	(0)	171	(89)
D M Ward (126)	81	(0)	0	(0)	81	(0)
T R Ward (127)	867	(57)	2	(0)	907	(57)
A P Wells (128)	752	(31)	0	(0)	752	(31)
R M S Weston (129)	15	(15)	0	(0)	15	(15)
W P C Weston (130)	925	(19)	0	(0)	925	(19)
G W White (131)	235	(0)	0	(0)	235	(0)
J J Whitaker (132)	761	(0)	0	(0)	761	(0)
P R Whitaker (133)	397	(0)	8	(0)	557	(0)
M G N Windows (134)	289	(101)	0	(0)	289	(101)
A J Wright (135)	415	(0)	0	(0)	415	(0)

All-rounders (150-203)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
Aamir Sohail (150)	155	(0)	2	(0)	195	(0)
M W Alleyne (151)	516	(75)	32	(2)	1156	(115)
I D Austin (152)	379	(0)	14	(0)	659	(0)
P Bainbridge (153)	545	(0)	7	(0)	685	(0)
D R Brown (154)	416	(0)	31	(0)	1036	(0)
M A Butcher (155)	1269	(0)	4	(0)	1349	(0)
C L Cairns (156)	714	(108)	23	(2)	1174	(148)
D J Capel (157)	657	(43)	24	(1)	1137	(63)
D G Cork (158)	475	(71)	41	(5)	1295	(171)
R D B Croft (159)	371	(56)	52	(5)	1411	(156)
K M Curran (160)	748	(212)	9	(3)	928	(272)
A Dale (161)	422	(0)	3	(0)	482	(0)
P A J DeFreitas (162)	216	(13)	25	(9)	716	(193)
V C Drakes (163)	260	(59)	28	(8)	820	(219)
M A Ealham (164)	469	(0)	36	(2)	1189	(40)
S C Ecclestone (165)	119	(0)	0	(0)	119	(0)
K P Evans (166)	313	(39)	22	(1)	753	(59)
M A Feltham (167)	14	(0)	4	(0)	94	(0)
M V Fleming (168)	706	(68)	12	(2)	946	(108)
A P Grayson (169)	758	(140)	10	(0)	958	(140)
O D Gibson (170)	175	(30)	6	(6)	295	(150)
F A Griffith (171)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
C L Hooper (172)	829	(84)	16	(0)	1149	(84)
R C Irani (173)	588	(9)	35	(4)	1288	(89)
A D Jadeja (174)	489	(0)	0	(0)	489	(0)
K D James (175)	613	(31)	23	(1)	1073	(51)
B P Julian (176)	330	(0)	36	(0)	1050	(0)
J H Kallis (177)	128	(0)	6	(0)	248	(0)
S R Lampitt (178)	558	(121)	41	(7)	1378	(261)
S Lee (179)	861	(26)	26	(1)	1381	(46)
C C Lewis (180)	389	(101)	33	(2)	1049	(141)
G W Mike (181)	20	(7)	4	(2)	100	(47)
A C Morris (182)	189	(0)	4	(0)	269	(0)
Mushtaq Ahmed (183)	52	(0)	27	(0)	592	(0)
D J Nash (184)	15	(0)	1	(0)	35	(0)
A L Penberthy (185)	464	(87)	16	(0)	784	(97)
S M Pollock (186)	377	(0)	38	(0)	1137	(0)
D A Reeve (187)	351	(0)	9	(0)	531	(0)
G D Rose (188)	337	(93)	37	(4)	1077	(173)
V S Solanki (189)	354	(1)	16	(0)	674	(1)
A W Smith (190)	23	(23)	0	(0)	23	(23)
N M K Smith (191)	372	(0)	23	(0)	832	(0)
P A Smith (192)	23	(0)	2	(0)	63	(0)
J N Snape (193)	151	(37)	13	(5)	411	(137)
J P Stephenson (194)	540	(26)	24	(2)	1020	(66)
C M Tolley (195)	112	(0)	7	(0)	252	(0)
Wasim Akram (196)	157	(68)	23	(7)	617	(208)
M Watkinson (197)	310	(0)	20	(0)	710	(0)
G Welch (198)	152	(0)	25	(0)	652	(0)
C M Wells (199)	566	(23)	7	(0)	706	(23)
V J Wells (200)	1026	(208)	10	(1)	1226	(228)
P N Weekes (201)	696	(0)	22	(1)	1136	(20)
C White (202)	499	(54)	28	(3)	1059	(114)
J R Wileman (203)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)

Wicketkeepers (225-256)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
A N Aymes (225)	575	(36)	27	(4)	1115	(116)
R J Blakey (226)	491	(82)	31	(2)	1111	(122)
K R Brown (227)	584	(70)	39	(4)	1364	(150)
M Burns (228)	247	(0)	17	(0)	587	(0)
S P Griffiths (229)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
W K Hegg (230)	490	(0)	35	(0)	1190	(0)
P C L Holloway (231)	277	(0)	6	(0)	397	(0)
G J Kersey (232)	280	(0)	30	(0)	880	(0)
J A Knott (233)	52	(52)	3	(3)	112	(112)
K M Krikken (234)	609	(17)	50	(6)	1609	(137)
D G C Ligertwood (235)	281	(43)	26	(5)	801	(143)
S A Marsh (236)	392	(0)	26	(0)	912	(0)
C P Metson (237)	51	(11)	14	(2)	331	(51)
P Moores (238)	607	(39)	31	(1)	1227	(59)
N R Mongia (239)	364	(0)	14	(0)	644	(0)
P A Nixon (240)	571	(51)	40	(3)	1371	(111)
W M Noon (241)	96	(26)	20	(6)	496	(146)
K J Piper (242)	146	(0)	16	(0)	466	(0)
Rashid Latif (243)	202	(55)	16	(3)	522	(115)
S J Rhodes (244)	636	(109)	28	(2)	1196	(149)
D Ripley (245)	227	(9)	8	(2)	387	(49)
R J Rollins (246)	481	(10)	49	(4)	1461	(90)
R C Russell (247)	491	(15)	37	(2)	1231	(55)
N F Sargeant (248)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
C W Scott (249)	208	(0)	20	(0)	608	(0)
A D Shaw (250)	120	(0)	19	(0)	500	(0)
R J Turner (251)	416	(57)	45	(4)	1316	(137)
L N Walker (252)	93	(0)	18	(0)	453	(0)
R J Warren (253)	455	(0)	18	(0)	815	(0)
P Whitticase (254)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R C J Williams (255)	116	(0)	7	(0)	256	(0)
S C Willis (256)	62	(50)	6	(1)	182	(70)

Bowlers (275-404)

Player (No)	Runs		Wkts		Total	
P R Adams (275)	38	(0)	10	(0)	238	(0)
J A Afford (276)	28	(12)	35	(2)	728	(52)
U Afzaal (277)	81	(0)	1	(0)	101	(0)
P Aldred (278)	50	(0)	8	(0)	210	(0)
C E L Ambrose (279)	63	(5)	27	(3)	603	(65)
S J W Andrew (280)	51	(0)	13	(0)	311	(0)
Aqib Javed (281)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
M C J Ball (282)	144	(0)	12	(0)	384	(0)
S R Barwick (283)	34	(0)	3	(0)	94	(0)
S J Base (284)	1	(0)	1	(0)	21	(0)
R T Bates (285)	158	(21)	17	(4)	498	(101)
J D Batty (286)	235	(21)	26	(6)	755	(141)
M A V Bell (287)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J E Benjamin (288)	65	(0)	19	(0)	445	(0)
W K M Benjamin (289)	140	(0)	6	(0)	260	(0)
M M Betts (290)	231	(0)	34	(0)	911	(0)
M P Bicknell (291)	149	(0)	45	(0)	1049	(0)
S D Birbeck (292)	8	(0)	4	(0)	88	(0)
D J P Boden (293)	1	(0)	1	(0)	21	(0)
J Boiling (294)	79	(0)	9	(0)	259	(0)
J N B Bovill (295)	99	(18)	21	(4)	519	(98)
M T Brimson (296)	18	(2)	23	(2)	478	(42)
J E Brinkley (297)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S J E Brown (298)	283	(4)	65	(7)	1583	(144)
A R Caddick (299)	120	(38)	46	(7)	1040	(178)
R J Chapman (300)	0	(0)	6	(0)	120	(0)
G Chapple (301)	195	(0)	34	(0)	875	(0)
J H Childs (302)	1	(0)	18	(0)	361	(0)
V P Clarke (303)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
C A Connor (304)	116	(0)	40	(0)	916	(0)
K E Cooper (305)	5	(0)	5	(0)	105	(0)
D M Cousins (306)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A P Cowan (307)	95	(24)	20	(8)	495	(184)
D M Cox (308)	171	(0)	13	(0)	431	(0)
R P Davis (309)	155	(21)	14	(0)	435	(21)
J M De La Pena (310)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N A Derbyshire (311)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
R R Dibden (312)	1	(0)	2	(0)	41	(0)
M Dimond (313)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A D Edwards (314)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S W K Ellis (315)	14	(0)	9	(1)	194	(20)
S Elworthy (316)	267	(0)	22	(0)	707	(0)
A R C Fraser (317)	171	(7)	30	(4)	771	(87)
E S H Giddins (318)	51	(0)	45	(8)	951	(160)
A F Giles (319)	199	(0)	31	(0)	819	(0)
D Gough (320)	472	(9)	43	(4)	1332	(89)
R J Green (321)	14	(0)	6	(0)	134	(0)
J C Hallett (322)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G M Hamilton (323)	1	(0)	4	(0)	81	(0)
A J Harris (324)	75	(0)	36	(0)	795	(0)
P J Hartley (325)	381	(93)	47	(10)	1321	(293)
D W Headley (326)	169	(15)	33	(6)	829	(135)
J E Hindson (327)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J G Hughes (328)	14	(0)	1	(0)	34	(0)
A P Igglesden (329)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
R K Illingworth (330)	319	(10)	36	(3)	1039	(70)
M C Ilott (331)	165	(1)	38	(6)	925	(121)
P W Jarvis (332)	164	(0)	19	(0)	544	(0)
R L Johnson (333)	121	(10)	9	(2)	301	(50)
G Keedy (334)	61	(0)	13	(0)	321	(0)
N M Kendrick (335)	35	(1)	17	(5)	375	(101)
S G Kenlock (336)	5	(5)	0	(0)	5	(5)
J I D Kerr (337)	60	(0)	1	(0)	80	(0)
A A Khan (338)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
N Killeen (339)	32	(32)	9	(1)	212	(52)
R J Kirtley (340)	0	(0)	3	(0)	60	(0)
A Kumble (341)	112	(0)	13	(0)	372	(0)
R P Lefebvre (342)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Lewis (343)	113	(19)	16	(5)	433	(119)
J D Lewry (344)	113	(19)	38	(3)	873	(79)
M J McCague (345)	313	(4)	45	(3)	1213	(64)
D E Malcolm (346)	69	(4)	51	(4)	1089	(84)
N A Mallender (347)	31	(0)	1	(0)	51	(0)
P J Martin (348)	138	(0)	27	(0)	678	(0)
R S C Martin-Jenkins (349)	20	(0)	1	(0)	40	(0)
R J Maru (350)	123	(0)	6	(0)	243	(0)
S M Milburn (352)	180	(11)	17	(1)	520	(31)
D J Millns (353)	310	(0)	47	(0)	1250	(0)
A D Mullally (354)	141	(29)	51	(5)	1161	(129)
T A Munton (355)	68	(0)	13	(0)	328	(0)
P J Newport (356)	142	(0)	19	(0)	522	(0)
R W Nowell (357)	28	(28)	2	(2)	68	(68)
J Ormond (358)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
G J Parsons (359)	210	(13)	33	(0)	870	(13)
M M Patel (360)	191	(15)	27	(1)	731	(35)
R M Pearson (361)	106	(0)	25	(0)	606	(0)
D B Pennett (362)	27	(0)	7	(0)	167	(0)
N C Phillips (363)	100	(0)	5	(0)	200	(0)
R A Pick (364)	66	(0)	7	(0)	206	(0)
A R K Pierson (365)	182	(24)	29	(5)	762	(124)
A C S Pigott (366)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
V J Pike (367)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
S L V Raju (368)	33	(0)	5	(0)	133	(0)
A R Roberts (369)	141	(0)	10	(0)	341	(0)
M A Robinson (370)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
I D K Salisbury (371)	356	(2)	18	(1)	716	(22)
Saqlain Mushtaq (372)	94	(0)	13	(6)	354	(120)
B N Schultz (373)	12	(0)	6	(0)	132	(0)
J P Searle (374)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
D J Shadford (375)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
K P Sheeraz (376)	3	(0)	1	(0)	23	(0)
A Sheriyar (377)	21	(0)	23	(4)	481	(80)
K J Shine (378)	120	(0)	31	(0)	740	(0)
C E W Silverwood (379)	184	(12)	34	(1)	864	(32)
G C Small (380)	39	(0)	11	(0)	259	(0)
A M Smith (381)	241	(11)	41	(0)	1061	(11)
D J Spencer (382)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
J Srinath (383)	128	(0)	20	(0)	528	(0)
E J Stanford (384)	12	(0)	5	(0)	112	(0)
R D Stemp (385)	253	(15)	29	(0)	833	(15)
P M Such (386)	123	(1)	43	(0)	983	(1)
J P Taylor (387)	178	(5)	39	(1)	958	(25)
S D Thomas (388)	182	(0)	17	(0)	522	(0)
J B Thompson (389)	89	(0)	9	(0)	269	(0)
M J Thursfield (390)	67	(0)	5	(0)	167	(0)
H R J Trump (391)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
A J Tudor (392)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
P C R Tufnell (393)	147	(22)	45	(3)	1047	(82)
S D Udal (394)	329	(25)	22	(1)	769	(45)
A P van Troost (395)	11	(0)	3	(0)	71	(0)
C A Walsh (396)	79	(17)	46	(4)	999	(97)
A Walker (397)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)
A E Warner (398)	0	(0)	1	(0)	20	(0)
S L Watkin (399)	97	(0)	41	(4)	917	(80)
Waqar Younis (400)	12	(0)	13	(0)	272	(0)
N F Williams (401)	184	(13)	18	(2)	544	(53)
J Wood (402)	91	(21)	24	(2)	571	(61)
T N Wren (403)	15	(0)	2	(0)	55	(0)
G Yates (404)	5	(0)	0	(0)	5	(0)

☐ One point is awarded for each run, 20 points for each wicket. Wickets include catches and stumpings by wicketkeepers, but not catches by fielders ☐ *Source: TCCB/PA Cricket Record*

Bicknell preserves hope for Surrey

By Pat Gibson

SOUTHPORT (first day of four; Lancashire won toss): Lancashire, with five first-innings wickets in hand, are 83 runs behind Surrey

SURREY may not have appreciated it when they were invited to bat first, but they are better off taking their chances on a relaid pitch at the Southport and Birkdale club in Trafalgar Road than they would have been trying to manufacture a victory on a bland pitch at Old Trafford or The Oval.

They need positive results if they are going to maintain their challenge for their first championship since 1971 and, one way or the other, they are going to get one in this game, as long as the blustery north-west wind *continues to drive the clouds* away, as it did yesterday.

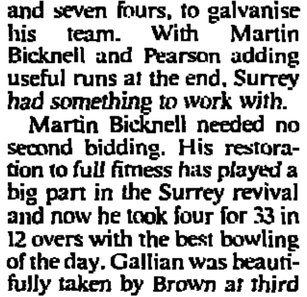
Play began an hour late because of damp patches on the square, but there was still time for 15 wickets to fall — prompting a routine call to the Test and County Cricket Board — on a *patchy green pitch with enough* undulations to provide variable pace and bounce to go with the movement off the seam.

Such conditions are completely alien to batsmen brought up at The Oval and Surrey, without Stewart, Thorpe and Lewis, were probably feeling fairly pleased with themselves when they managed to make 211. They were undoubtedly feeling even better when the revitalized Martin Bicknell reduced Lancashire, themselves missing *Atherton and Crawley, to 128* for five.

In the circumstances, both sides had obviously decided that the only answer was to bat as positively as possible and Surrey had 30 runs on the board in five overs when the first two wickets provided a graphic illustration of the problems. The prolific Butcher got a ball from Martin that nipped off the seam to clip his off bail. Darren Bicknell got a shooter from Chapple that uprooted his off stump.

Austin, his brisk seam bowling ideally suited to this kind of pitch, took the next three wickets; Ratcliffe leg-before, Brown bowled second ball off his glove and Hollioake caught behind. When Martin had Shahid leg-before, Surrey were 107 for six.

However, Julian then struck 41 off 43 balls, including a six and seven fours, to galvanise his team. With Martin Bicknell and Pearson adding useful runs at the end, Surrey *had something to work with.*



Austin: brisk pace

Martin Bicknell needed no second bidding. His restoration to full fitness has played a big part in the Surrey revival and now he took four for 33 in 12 overs with the best bowling of the day. Gallian was beautifully taken by Brown at third slip. Titchard and Speak played on and Fairbrother was leg-before so painfully that he had to go to hospital for an X-ray on a toe before more forthright batting from Lloyd. Watkinson and Hegg kept Lancashire in the game.

SCOREBOARD

SURREY: First Innings

D J Bicknell b Chapple	12
M A Butcher b Martin	10
J D Ratcliffe b Austin	20
N Shahid lbw b Martin	32
A D Brown b Austin	0
*A J Hollioake c Hegg b Austin	20
B P Julian c Hegg b Elworthy	41
†G J Kersey c Hegg b Martin	3
M P Bicknell b Austin	23
R M Pearson not out	15
J E Benjamin c Elworthy b Martin	6
Extras (lb 10, nb 19)	29
Total (55.4 overs)	211

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-30, 2-36, 3-57, 4-57, 5-105, 6-107, 7-129, 8-158, 9-192.

BOWLING: Chapple 12-3-37-1; Martin 16.4-2-59-4; Austin 16-4-46-4; Elworthy 11-0-59-1.

LANCASHIRE: First Innings

J E R Gallian c Brown b M P Bicknell	3
S P Titchard b M P Bicknell	17
N J Speak b M P Bicknell	34
N H Fairbrother lbw b M P Bicknell	0
G D Lloyd c Kersey b Julian	19
*M Watkinson not out	23
†W K Hegg not out	21
Extras (lb 1, w 2, nb 8)	11
Total (5 wkts, 33 overs)	128

I D Austin, G Chapple, S Elworthy and P J Martin to bat

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-14, 2-42, 3-42, 4-75, 5-89

BOWLING: M P Bicknell 12-0-33-4; Benjamin 11-2-36-0; Julian 8-0-42-1; Hollioake 2-0-16-0

Bonus points: Lancashire 4 Surrey 3.

Umpires: J W Holder and K J Lyons.

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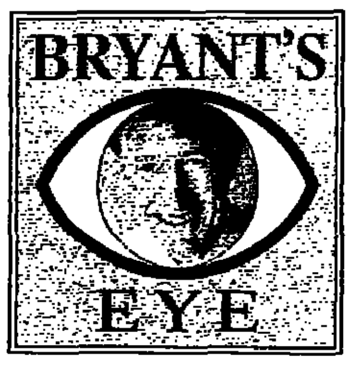
Strong man needed to lift Olympic gloom



Britain's bruised and battered sports contingent limped back from Atlanta this week to a muted welcome home and a promise that they *should* not worry, everything in Britain's sport is going to be all right.

The soothing words came from Iain Sproat, the Minister for Sport. He pledged that Britain would have "the highest standards of coaching and facilities" by the time of the next Olympic Games. You might wonder what is the point of a sports minister if the best we can do in an Olympic year is to look forward to the next Games.

Linford Christie reckons that champions like himself are now part of our past. "Any government efforts are now too late, " he said. "Sport no longer seems to play such a big part in school life ... I don't think the teachers are keen to play their part. We have lost too many potential competitors."

Sproat promises a more "professional attitude", loads of lottery money, and John Major's dream of a sporting academy. But what many people think we need is a really strong man at the top, doing the job that should have been done all along by a Minister of Sport.

Chris Brasher, the inspiration and mentor of the London Marathon, and himself a former Olympic gold medal-winner said: "I dealt with seven or eight ministers for sport in my 14 years of running the London Marathon — they were all pretty useless. I can't even remember more than two or three of them."

It is 34 years since we first had a Minister for Sport, and we still do not have a Minister *of* Sport with any real clout. In 1962 Lord Hailsham persuaded Harold Macmillan that there was a need not for a ministry of sport, but for a focal point under a minister — a supremo who could lead the development of sport throughout the land.

Hailsham's analysis was right, but the trouble is that 11 sports ministers later we still have not really got one. What is needed, very simply, is a strong man with real power and a hefty budget to run British sport. And John Major, with his genuine love for sport, should appoint one.

'We still lack minister with clout'

Strong figures at the top in sport have a proven record. The French appointed their first minister just one year before Hailsham came up with the idea for Britain. De Gaulle had been stung into action by the failure of France to gain any victories in the Olympics of 1960. He gave his minister the power and status of a seat in the French cabinet.

The current French minister of sport is the former Olympic hurdling silver medal-winner, Guy Drut, an energetic leader who (in contrast to Iain Sproat) was seen everywhere in Atlanta, inspiring the French team.

The Americans, too, know the value of tough, powerful figures at the top of sports. Such men are the commissioners, the leaders, of America's most successful sporting bodies — the National Football League and the National Basketball Association. By contrast, baseball, which has not had a proper commissioner at its head for four years, shows all the signs of a sport in trouble. Two years ago an eight-month strike wiped out the season.

Baseball looks back with longing to its five years under Peter Ueberroth. Ambitious, a risk-taker, an entrepreneur he had been the guiding hand behind the success of the 1984 Los Angeles Olympic Games. Put such a figure in charge of British sport, and the inquest that seems to follow every significant sporting tournament could become a ritual of the past.

The immediate agenda for action would be relatively simple: set up and fund a decent coaching structure throughout the land, and reverse the unneccessary decline of sport in our schools. The coaching set-up in this country is ludicrous. Up and down the land there are dedicated men and women who give of their time and expertise for practically nothing. Every so often one inspired coach will produce a cluster of successful sportsmen — yet they get usually get no funding, and little support. If we cannot train, recognise and reward our indispensible sporting gurus, perhaps we should steal them from the rest of the world.

It is worth noting that Steve Redgrave and Matthew Pinsent, our only gold medal-winners in Atlanta, are coached by Jürgen Grobler. He came from East Germany where he had been responsible for winning more than 40 world and Olympic gold medals.

Similarly, the American gold medal-winning women's gymnastics team is coached by Bela Karolyi, who before he defected from Romania was the coach who nurtured Nadia Comaneci.

So where do we find this sports supremo? Not, looking at the roll of ministers for sport over the past three decades, among the minions of the Department of National Heritage.

But there are great candidates. Sebastian Coe would seem a good bet, but he has always run away from the idea of a government job too closely tied to sport. Jeffrey Archer has time on his hands, the ear of the Prime Minister, immense energy and a lifelong interest in sport. He was in Atlanta and says he was almost in tears at seeing our athletics team continually hammered by the likes of France and Italy. If an Ueberroth figure is needed, who better than Richard Branson or Chris Brasher, who has given up running the London Marathon to spend more time with his racehorses? He knows about sport, and he knows about winning.

'Brasher knows about winning'

In the first modern Olympics, 100 years ago in Athens, we ended up fifth out of ten in the medals table. *The Times* leader on the Games of 1896 has a horribly familiar message: "Possibly on the next occasion, in 1900, when the Games are held at Paris, we shall make a better show, but it will poorly compensate us for having missed the first chance."

A century on we have missed too many chances.

JOHN BRYANT

DAVID CANNON/ALLSPORT

Nick Faldo, under the watchful eyes of David Leadbetter, his coach, and Fanny Sunesson, his caddie, drives during a practice round at the Valhalla course yesterday

Watson returns to familiar routine

FROM JOHN HOPKINS
GOLF CORRESPONDENT
IN LOUISVILLE

TOM WATSON was back in his customary position on the eve of major championships. The day before the 78th US PGA Championship begins at the Valhalla club here, he was assessing the field as only he, the winner of eight majors, can. One says back because a shoulder injury had forced him to withdraw from the Open last month, ending a run of 87 consecutive major championships.

"There are two men whose chances I like," Watson said. "Colin Montgomerie has a chance. Without any wind and as straight as he hits the ball, this is a good course for him. It's a fairways and green course, one in which you must hit the fairways and hit the greens to stand a chance.

"The blue-grass rough is so deep and so dense that to hit any sort of controlled shot out of it is, at best, a good guess and, at worst, a bad guess. You can put your hands in it and give it a yank and you cannot break it. It is really tough. You do not want to be in the grassy areas around the greens because the grass is so wiry. It is much better to be in the sand bunkers than the grass bunkers.

"I also like Fuzzy Zoeller," Watson continued. "He is a local. It's hot, good for his back and he'll have a lot of people supporting him here. So there's the tall and the short of it."

Watson looked fit and tanned. He wore the light-coloured clothes that are essential to repel heat estimated at 100 degrees on Tuesday and almost as hot again yesterday and he felt pleased with himself that he had sneaked a quick practice round last week when there was no one around and the weather was cooler.

This US PGA is certain to be dominated by the intense, damp heat that is so energy-sapping. "Make no mistake," Watson said, "the heat is going to be a factor — and so is stamina. You must have stamina to play a round here."

The 1994 US Open at Oakmont, Pennsylvania, was as hot as it has been here this week and Montgomerie, who finished tied-second there, has learnt from that experience. Then he wore a black shirt and his red face was flushed. Perspiration poured from him. He looked uncomfortable.

This week he has brought with him lighter-coloured clothes and has changed his shirts twice each day, at least. He has half a dozen gloves in his bag, each one size larger than usual because, in the heat, his hands swell. He puts on a new one every three holes or so. And he has worn a wide-brimmed hat.

In this weather, Watson said, Valhalla was a three-glove sort of course. "You take a glove out, warm up with it and take that off, tie it on your bag for it to dry out and go to your second glove. You play the first four or five holes with that, then put it in the bag. Then you take out a third glove and when that gets wet, you take the first glove, which has dried out by now. I wear wristbands because otherwise the sweat gets into my palms too much. And, of course, I drink water on every hole."

Watson's injured shoulder responded so quickly to treatment from a doctor in Kansas City after he returned home that he was chipping and putting within a week. As he mooched around at home, sad at not competing in the Open for the first time since 1975, he was disturbed by a telephone call from Sandy Tatum, a friend and past president of the United States Golf Association. "Watson," Tatum boomed down the telephone from San Francisco. "If you're going to miss an Open, this was as good a one as any. Four days of perfect weather on a benign course. It was a most unBritish Open."

Four men have won all four major championships — Gene Sarazen, Ben Hogan, Gary Player and Jack Nicklaus. Watson needs only a US PGA title to join them and turn the foursome into a fivesome. "It would be a great honour and I've had a couple of great opportunities. I feel I am capable of winning after winning the Memorial. But, you know, stamina will gave a lot to do with it — especially for a 47-year-old."

TEE-OFF TIMES FOR THE US PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

United States unless stated: all times BST
12.20 today and 16.23 tomorrow: C Anderson, P Arthur, M Caporale
12.29 and 16.32: B Lohr, L Rinker, S Ingraham
12.38 and 16.41: S Schneiter, B Andrade, D Ogrin
12.47 and 16.50: C Strange, P Burke, G Morgan
12.56 and 16.59: J Ozaki (Japan), D Waldorf, D Frost (SA)
13.05 and 17.17: G Waite (NZ), M Brooks, B Langer (Ger)
13.14 and 17.26: J Sindelar, M Campbell (NZ), N Henke
13.23 and 17.35: A Cejka (Ger), J Haas, D Edwards
13.32 and 17.44: J Cook, T Herron, S Sincker
13.41 and 17.53: N Faldo (GB), S Jones, T Lehman
13.59 and 18.02: L Nelson, P Azinger, J Sluman
14.08 and 18.11: S Elkington (Aus), J Nicklaus, W Grady (Aus)
14.17 and 18.20: J Parnevik (Swe), B Faxon, S McCarron
14.26 and 18.29: N Price (Zim), R Tway, J Maharfey
14.35 and 18.38: R Mediate, M O'Meara, W Wood
14.44 and 18.56: J Daly, H Sutton, H Green
14.53 and 19.05: S Torrance (GB), B Crenshaw, P Senior (Aus)
15.02 and 19.14: M McNulty (Zim), C Parry (Aus), S Hoch
15.11 and 19.23: S Lowery, R Allenby (Aus), M McCumber
15.20 and 19.32: J Furyk, P Jacobsen, P Walton (Ire)
15.38 and 19.41: R Cochran, M Brisky, M Hulbert
15.47 and 19.50: D Martin, G Kraft, J DeForest
15.56 and 19.59: B Watts, T Tolles, J Edwards
16.05 and 18.08: B Israelson, J Nelson, B Boyd
16.14 and 18.17: E Booker, D Bateman, J Reeves
16.23 and 12.20: J Roth, W Chapman, C Tucker
16.32 and 12.29: G Bowman, M Taylor, J Bermel
16.41 and 12.38: M Dawson, K Triplett, M Bradley
16.50 and 12.47: T Tryba, K Perry, M Calcavecchia
16.59 and 12.56: J Huston, L Mize, V Singh (Fiji)
17.17 and 13.05: P Stankowski, D Duval, H Clark (GB)
17.26 and 13.14: S Higashi (Japan), J McGovern, D A Weibring
17.35 and 13.23: G Norman (Aus), D Love, C Pavin
17.44 and 13.32: I Woosnam (GB), F Nobilo (NZ), B Bryant
17.53 and 13.41: C Montgomerie (GB), F Zoeller, F Couples
18.02 and 13.59: T Watson, E Els (SA), T Kite
18.11 and 14.08: B McCallister, C Stadler, M Ozaki (Japan)
18.20 and 14.17: E Aubrey, P Mickelson, C Rocca (It)
18.29 and 14.26: P Stewart, L Wadkins, L Janzen
18.38 and 14.35: P-U Johansson (Swe), P Goydos, T Nakajima (Japan)
18.56 and 14.44: S Simpson, N Lancaster, M A Jiménez (Sp)
19.05 and 14.53: J Maggert, L Roberts, M James (GB)
19.14 and 15.02: B Estes, F Funk, W Austin
19.23 and 15.11: J Morse, J Gallagher, B Mayfair
19.32 and 15.20: D Forsman, T Purtzer, J Leonard
19.41 and 15.38: G Day, J Adams, J D Blake
19.50 and 15.47: P Blackmar, B Ford, J Wilson
19.59 and 15.56: B Chamblee, L Clements, M Wiebe
20.08 and 16.05: L Nielsen, R Philo, E Terasa
20.17 and 16.14: R Ware, M Burke, K Schall

WORD-WATCHING

Answers from page *40*

OXER
(a) Fox-hunting slang for an ox-fence, a fence intended to keep cattle confined to their pasture. The same sort of fence and name are still used in show-jumping. "The fence was an oxer, about seven feet high, and impervious to a bird."

PATCHOULI
(c) An odoriferous plant (*Pogostemon Patchouli, Labiatae*), native to Silhat, Penang, and the Malay Peninsula, the dried leaves of which are used for various purposes in the East. It yields an essential oil, from which the scent is derived. The spelling appears to be French, and may have arisen on the Coromandel coast. There is an unpersuasive conjecture that it is a phonetically spelt adaptation of the English *patch-leaf*. But the dates do not fit.

PHILISTER
(b) A name applied by the students at German universities to the townsmen, or to all persons not students; hence, an unenlightened, uncultured person. The German word for a Philistine, Hebrew *p'lishti*. Said to have originated at Jena in 1693, in a sermon from the text *Philister über dir, Simson!* "The Philistines be upon thee, Samson!", preached by Pastor Götze at the funeral of one of the students who had been killed by the townsmen in a quarrel between town and gown.

NEUF
(b) A sword-knot. From the Old French *neuf, nou, noud*, Latin *nodus, nod-um* a knot. "Parts and appurtenances belonging to a sword and belt, the Neufs."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1 Qxc8+! Bxc8 2 exd3 Qxf3+ 3 Bg2 and the black queen is lost.

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Davies driven by life in the fast lane

BY PATRICIA DAVIES

IT IS difficult to name the star attraction at the inaugural McDonald's WPGA Championship, which starts at Gleneagles today. Laura Davies, world No 1 again after her victory in the du Maurier Classic in Canada on Sunday, is a candidate; so is the setting itself. Then there is a red Ferrari 456GT with cream upholstery, driven from Surrey by Davies, who was a little coy about the time it took.

She admitted to 6½ hours, saying: "I got tired towards the end, stopped for a bit, had a diet Coke and then just carried on." However, Davies, 32, is as near indefatigable as it is possible to be, for she recovered from her drive quickly enough to play football for a makeshift England team against a Scotland-Ireland combination. Davies admitted scoring "quite a few" in England's 13-1 win and she also collected a few grass burns. "I'm not frightened of getting injured," she said. "I won't stop doing things I enjoy just because of golf. It's because of those things that I keep enjoying my golf."

She can scarcely have enjoyed herself more than on Sunday, when a final round of 66, six under par, swept her to the fourth major championship of her career. Kathryn Marshall and Pam Wright, two Scots who have come home from the US Tour in search of Solheim Cup points, were generous in their praise of Davies's performance in wet, windy conditions.

This tournament is the brainchild of Herb Lotman, co-founder of the McDonald's LPGA Championship in Delaware (holder: L Davies), which has raised more than $25 million for Ronald McDonald House Charities during the past 16 years. There are three houses in Britain so far, in Glasgow, Liverpool and London, and they provide a home-away-from-home for families of children in hospital or undergoing lengthy treatment.

Professional golf as charity fund-raiser is essentially an American concept but Lotman is determined to make it work in Britain. "We take a lot out of the community, so we have to put back in," he explained. "That's the McDonald's philosophy and it was my father's too."

The prize-money is a healthy £150,000 — it will be doubled next year if all goes to plan — and BBC Scotland is providing extensive television coverage.

RADIO CHOICE

The business of education

A Degree of Uncertainty. *Radio 4, 7.20pm.*

The uncertainty is presenter David Walker's. A Cambridge man, and the BBC's former public affairs correspondent, he sees Britain becoming a society made up of graduates, sustaining 115 universities compared with 40 in the early 1980s. While admitting that he has exalted ideas about universities as temples to truth and repositories of values, he does not believe we are any better culturally, politically, or morally. Controversial stuff, this. Using Derby University (13,000 students) as his model, he finds some evidence that reinforces his fears that, in an increasingly commercial world, universities will develop more as businesses than as the academic institutions of old.

Twilight: A Cry to See By. *Radio 4, 8.45pm.*

This must be the most hushed programme on Radio 4 this week. Almost whispering to each other, Joanna Pinnock and Bob Stebbings watch a colony of horseshoe bats pour out of a farm building, chattering and squeaking away in the last few minutes of daylight. "The most wonderful sound on earth," says Stebbings, a batman for 35 years. Well, everyone's entitled to their opinion. What are these crepuscular creatures telling each other? Guesswork of course, but Stebbings thinks they could be exchanging views about where the juiciest beetles are to be found. Either that or they are putting on a show specially for the revolutionary electronic equipment the *Twilight* engineers are using.

Peter Davalle

RADIO 1

FM Stereo **6.30am** Chris Evans **9.00** Kevin Greening **11.30** Radio 1 Roadshow, live from Southsea **12.30pm** Lisa I'Anson **2.00** Nicky Campbell **4.00** Mark Goodier **7.00** Evening Session **10.00** Mark Radcliffe **12.00** Claire Sturgess **4.00am** Charlie Jordan

RADIO 2

FM Stereo. **6.00am** Sarah Kennedy **7.30** Wake Up to Wogan **9.30** Ken Bruce **11.30** Jimmy Young **1.30pm** Judi Spiers **3.00** Ed Stewart **5.05** John Dunn **7.00** The "What If" Show **7.30** David Allan **9.00** Paul Jones **10.00** I Write the Songs: Anthony Newley (6/6) **10.30** The Jamesons **12.05am** Sue McGarry **3.00** Alex Lester

RADIO 5 LIVE

5.00am Morning Reports, incl **5.45** Wake Up to Money **6.00** The Breakfast Programme, incl at **6.55**, **7.55** racing preview **8.35** The Magazine, with Diana Madill, incl **10.35** News from Europe **12.00** Midday with Mair, incl **12.35pm** Moneycheck, with Katie Derham **2.05** Ruscoe on Five, incl at **3.45** Entertainment News **4.00** Nationwide, incl at **5.45** Entertainment News **7.00** News Extra, incl at **7.20** Sports Bulletin **7.35** David Gower's Cricket Weekly. With news from the second test between England and Pakistan **9.05** SportsAmerica, with Alton Byrd **9.35** American Graffiti, with Jonathan Freedland **10.05** News Talk, with Jeremy Vine **11.00** Night Extra, with Valerie Sanderson **12.05am** After Hours — Early Call, with Vincent Hanna **2.05** Up All Night, with Rhod Sharp

TALK RADIO

6.30am Paul Ross **10.00** Scott Chisholm **1.00pm** Anna Raeburn **3.00** Tommy Boyd **5.00** Peter Deeley **7.00** Sport **10.00** James Whale **1.00am** Ian Collins

WORLD SERVICE

All times in **BST**. News on the hour. **5.30am** Europe Today **6.30** Europe Today **7.05** The World Today **7.30** Sports International **8.10** Words of Faith **8.15** Off the Shelf: *Reef* (4/7) **8.30** Network UK **9.15** Composer of the Month **9.45** Health Matters **10.05** Business **10.15** Sports International **10.45** Sports Roundup **11.30** BBC English **11.45** Off the Shelf: *Reef* (4/7) **12.30pm** Meridian **1.15** Britain Today **1.30** Assignment **3.05** Outlook **3.30** Multitrack: X Press **4.05** Sports Roundup **4.15** BBC English **4.30** News in German **5.30** Business **5.45** Britain Today **6.10** World Today **6.25** Take Five **6.30** News in German **6.45** Sports Roundup **7.30** Assignment **9.01** Outlook **9.25** Words of Faith **9.30** John Peel **10.05** Business **10.15** Britain Today **10.30** Meridian (Books) **11.30** World Today **11.45** Sports Roundup **12.10am** Take Five **12.15** Poems by Post **12.30** Rock Salad **1.30** Good Books **1.45** Britain Today **2.30** Outlook **2.55** Words of Faith **3.30** Thirty-Minute Drama: *The End of Lieutenant Boruvka* **4.15** Sports Roundup **4.30** Europe Today

CLASSIC FM

4.00am Mark Griffiths **6.00** Nick Bailey **9.00** Henry Kelly **12.00** Susannah Simons **2.00pm** Concerto. Hoffmann (Mandolin Concerto in D major) **3.00** Jamie Crick **6.00** Newsnight **6.30** Sonata. Delius (Violin Sonata No 3) **7.00** Travel Guide. Mauritius **8.00** Evening Concert. Walton (Prelude to Richard III); Khachaturian (Violin Concerto; Gayaneh Suite); Walton (Façade — Suite) **10.00** Michael Mappin **1.00am** Sally Peterson

VIRGIN RADIO

6.00am Russ 'n' Jono **9.00** Richard Skinner **12.00** Graham Dene **4.00pm** Nicky Horne **7.00** Paul Coyte (FM) / Robin Banks (AM) **10.00** Mark Forrest **2.00am** Randal Lee Rose

RADIO 3

6.00am On Air. Includes Ravel (String Quartet in F); Chopin (Three Waltzes, Op 64); Tchaikovsky (Overture in F); Purcell (O sing unto the Lord); Beethoven (Violin Sonata in G, Op 30 No 3)
9.00 Morning Collection with Paul Gambaccini. Nielsen (Piano Pieces Op 3); Tchaikovsky (String Quartet in E flat minor, Op 30); Bartok (Hungarian Sketches)
10.00 Musical Encounters. Respighi (Overture: Belfagor) **10.04** *Proms Artist of the Week:* Simon Preston, organ. Walton (Set me as a seal upon thine heart; Litany; Magnificat; Nunc Dimittis) **10.26** Bach (Prelude and Fugue in G sharp minor, BWV 887, 48); Strauss (Symphonic Interludes: Feverish Journey; Waltz Scene, Intermezzo) **11.26** Balakirev (Piano Concerto No 2 in E flat)
12.00 Composer of the Week: Stravinsky
1.00pm Slava! John Allison continues his exploration into the roots of Russian Opera. Includes excerpts from Rimsky-Korsakov's The Snow Maiden and Prokofiev's The Gambler (3/4)
2.00 Nikolai Demidenko. Clementi (Sonata in B flat, Op 24 No 2); Weber (Sonata in A flat, Op 39)
2.45 The BBC Orchestras. BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, under Richard Bernas. With Marco Rizzi, violin, Fiona Kimm, soprano. Verdi (Overture: Luisa Miller); Busoni (Violin Concerto in D); Scelsi (Chukrum); Berio (Folk Songs)
4.05 Fancies and Consorts. *Music for viols by Matthew Locke and Richard Mico. Performed, on period instruments, by Phantasm*
5.00 The Music Machine, with Sarah Walker
5.15 In Tune. Includes Copland (Fanfare for the Common Man); Sterndale Bennett (A Stroll Through the Meadows, Piano Concerto No 5)
7.30 BBC Proms 1996. Live from the Albert Hall, London. Michael Collins, basset clarinet, the Russian National Orchestra, under Mikhail Pletnov. Lyadov (Baba-Yaga; The Enchanted Lake; Kikimora); Mozart (Clarinet Concerto in A, K622) **7.50** What's in a Name? **8.10** Proms Part 2. Shostakovich (Symphony No 10)
9.20 The Colours of Music. A Cartoons (4/4) (r)
9.45 Marin Marais. Jordi Savall, bass viol, Ton Koopman, harpsichord, Hopkinson Smith, theorbo. Marais (Suite d'un gout etranger,exc)
10.00 BBC Proms 1996. Claron McFadden and Guillemette Laurens, sopranos, Simon Berridge and Rodrigo del Pozo, haute-contres, Andrew King and Nicholas Robertson, tenors, Nicolas Cavallier and Nicolas Rivenq, basses, St James's Singers and Baroque Players under Ivor Bolton. Rameau (Overture: Zaïs; Motet: In convertendo); Rebel (Chaos, Les Elemens); Charpentier (Te Deum)
11.30 Composer of the Week: Handel (r)
12.30am Jazz Notes
1.00 Through the Night

RADIO 4

5.55am Shipping Forecast (LW only) **6.00** News Briefing **6.10** *Farming Today* **6.25** Prayer for the Day **6.30** Today incl **7.25**, **8.25** Sport **7.45** Thought for the Day **8.40** Notes from a Small Island (4/5) **8.58** Weather
9.00 News 9.05 The Moral Maze, with Michael Buerk and guests
10.00 News; Minor Adjustment (FM only). Peter Davison and Samantha Bond star in a comedy about a family with a young daughter who has Down's syndrome (4/6)
10.00 Daily Service (LW)
10.15 On This Day (LW)
10.30 Woman's Hour
10.50 Test Match Special: England v Pakistan (LW). The first day's play of the second Test from Headingley
11.30 From Our Own Correspondent (FM)
12.00 News; You and Yours (FM), with Chris Choi
12.25pm Out of Order (FM). Patrick Hannan chairs the last in the series of the lighthearted quiz about politics **12.55** Weather
1.00 The World at One, with Nick Clarke
1.40 The Archers (FM) (r) **1.55** Shipping Forecast
1.40 Test Match Special (LW)
2.00 News; Riding with Buffalo Bill (FM), by Tim Rhys. With Giles Thomas and Don Warrington
2.00 Test Match Special (LW)
3.00 News; The Afternoon Shift (FM)
4.00 News (FM) 4.05 Kaleidoscope (FM). Paul Allen sees two versions of *Hedda Gabler*
4.45 Short Story: Journeys (FM), by Daphne Glazer. Read by Jane Freeman
5.00 PM (FM) 5.50 Shipping Forecast **5.55** Weather
5.55 Test Match Special (LW)
6.00 Six O'Clock News (FM).
6.30 First Impressions (FM), with Pete McCarthy
7.00 News 7.05 The Archers
7.20 A Degree of Uncertainty. See Choice (1/3)
8.00 20/20: A View of the Century. Another chance to hear John Tusa examine ten universal themes in a 20th-century context. The first subject he approaches is dreaming (r)
8.45 Twilight. See Choice
9.00 Does He Take Sugar? News and features for people with disabilities. Presented by Frederick Dove
9.30 Kaleidoscope (r) **9.59** Weather
10.00 The World Tonight, with Isabel Hilton
10.45 Book at Bedtime: Lunch with Ruth Sykes Janet Dale reads the first of two short stories by Jane Gardam (r)
11.00 The Deep Season: Deep Station Emerald. Joe Turner's futuristic undersea thriller continues. With Maureen Beattie, Tom Georgeson, Danny Webb and Ricky Tomlinson (2/4)
11.30 Wordly Wise. The last in the series of the definitive panel game, with Peter Hobday (r)
12.00 News incl **12.27am** approx Weather
12.30 The Late Book: The Secret History, by Donna Tartt. Read by William Hope (9/15) **12.48** Shipping Forecast **1.00** As World Service

FREQUENCY GUIDE. RADIO 1. FM 97.6-99.8. **RADIO 2.** FM 88.0-90.2. **RADIO 3.** FM 90.2-92.4. **RADIO 4.** FM 92.4-94.6; LW 198; MW 720. **RADIO 5 LIVE.** MW 693, 909. **WORLD SERVICE.** MW 648; LW 198 (12.45-5.55am). **CLASSIC FM.** FM 100-102. **VIRGIN RADIO.** FM 105.8; MW 1197, 1215. **TALK RADIO UK.** MW 1053, 1089. **Television and radio listings compiled by Peter Dear, Ian Hughes, Rosemary Smith, Susan Thomson, Jane Gregory and John McNamara.**

هكذا من الاعلى

Murder One: the critic confesses his guilt

REVIEW

Matthew Bond

And so, after 23 *episodes* and a contentious break for the Olympics, we were about to learn the truth. The murderer of Jessica Costello was . . .

But hang on just a minute. If we're playing the truth game, I have something I feel I ought to *own up to* before we go much further. You may have faithfully watched all 23 chapters of **Murder One** (BBC2), but I have not. I have seen precisely . . . ahem, five.

Sorry, but there it is. I watched the first two episodes and then decided that Daniel Benzali's *pre*posterous performance as lawyer-cum-God Ted *Hoffman* was not going to take up a day of my life. Not to mention all *those* clean-cut young men that surrounded him — *some* worked for him, some were policemen, some wanted to be a second chair (no doubt, a noble calling) but as far as I was concerned they were all made out of ticky-tacky and they all looked the same. The sooner they got back in their little boxes the better.

So why the change of heart? Why the *sudden, all-consuming* interest in chapters 21 through 23? Simple: after 22 weeks of *Murder One* being the cornerstone of BBC2's Tuesday *night schedule*, the powers-that-be in their infinite wisdom and *in their near-infinite* post-Olympic guilt decided that *the final episode* would be on a Wednesday night . . . last night, in *fact: my night*. Thanks a lot.

It is to the considerable credit of Steve Bochco's production team and, in particular, their cleverly constructed "previously on *Murder One*" sequence, that I managed to pick up the threads of the story pretty quickly during Tuesday night's double helping, so quickly, in fact, that I wondered what on earth could have kept you so happily occupied *for the intervening* 18 weeks. But, no doubt to *the delight of all you tut-tutting at* home ("calls himself a television *critic, he's only watched five episodes*"), last night was *comeuppance time*.

For the murderer of Jessica Costello was . . . well *not* Neil Avedon, obviously, he had been *found guilty* on Tuesday. With another two-and-a-half episodes to *fill it couldn't possibly be him*. No, the murderer of Jessica Costello was: somebody who hadn't appeared for a single moment in any of the episodes I'd seen.

So come the big moment, when Richard Cross's snuff-video stopped, revealed the murderer and you all went "Ooh, I knew it was him all along", or "I told you it was him back in chapter 13", round at my house there was a deafening silence. After a few seconds, a little voice asked: *"Who's he?" It was mine.*

Anyway, all was eventually explained *in words of sufficiently few* syllables for even me to understand what had been going on. I still didn't reckon much to Benzali's performance as Hoffman. Growl, "growl, growl, he went, never fluffing a sentence, never blowing a big moment, never, in fact, *showing the first* sign that he was a human being.

And *I never did get the hang of* all the interchangeable young men. "Am I the only one not to know about Chris and Lisa?" *asked Hoffman, as his team* celebrated Avedon's acquittal in a *not altogether traditional style*. Worry not Ted, there were at least *two of us — and now you mention* it, who's Lisa?

But overall (*in the one-fifth sense* of the word) I thought I'd had a reasonable return of entertainment on the three-and-a-half hours or so of my life I'd invested in the series. Whether I would feel the same after committing over 17 hours, I leave to those who did.

The rest of the evening proved a curious beast. **Short Stories: Running Wild** (Channel 4) purported to tell the story of the first ever dog sled race in Britain to be run (slid?) on snow, rather than wheels. The race, to be held in the Cairngorms *of Scotland, had been organised* by a public relations man. You could *tell that from the fact that the name* of the race's sponsor cropped up in every other shot — on *T-shirts*, baseball hats, race numbers, ban*ners and sacks* of what I *presume* is a husky's favourite supper. *Somewhere today, a marketing* manager will be feeling very *pleased with him- or herself.*

Product *placement apart*, the film had unearthed some interesting characters from the 300 regular "mushers" in Britain, none more so than Ian Grant, a man who dreams of wolves and log cabins but in real life is an Edinburgh taxi-driver. Husky racing, explained this 15-stone bear of a man, was a surprisingly emotional business. "I give them all a wee kiss to say thank you for all their effort." On occasion he had even been known to shed a wee tear: "which, I *suppose*, is a bit silly." Well, only a little bit.

But having built up the pre-race tension quite nicely, the film skidded to a *somewhat premature halt* when it became clear that not even a PR *man* could control the weather. As narrator Bill Paterson *put it: "It was the day before the* race . . . and the snow had com*pletely gone." No kisses this time*, then.

Lots of kisses on BBC2, along with lots of hugging, communal singing, laughing and generally having a high old time as the *Coming of Age* season continued with **Growing Old Disgracefully**. Following the six elderly but energetic members of the Hen Co-op on a wild weekend away on the Suffolk coast was an uplifting experience, marred ever so slightly by a feeling of intruding on a group therapy session and by the fact that the American women seemed to take the whole thing rather more *seriously than the self-deprecating* British. There, I've managed to be *ageist, sexist and xenophobic in* one sentence and now feel thor*oughly ashamed with myself.*

6.00am Business Breakfast (94446)

7.00 BBC Breakfast News (Ceefax) (25717) **9.00 Breakfast News Extra** (*Ceefax*) (2134953)

9.20 Delia Smith's *Summer Collection* (*r*) (Ceefax) (s) (7751224)

9.50 Gourmet Ireland (s) (5195224)

10.20 Scoundrels of Suburbia (7375576)

10.50 News, Regional News & Weather (Ceefax) (5431798)

10.55 Cricket — Second Test. Live action from Headingley, from the Second Test between England and Pakistan (s) (5395137)

12.00 News and weather (Ceefax) (1887040)

12.05pm The Alphabet Game (s) (4057243)

12.35 Neighbours (Ceefax) (s) (6895446)

1.00 News & Weather (Ceefax) (95576)

1.30 Regional News and Weather (45162934)

1.35 Cricket — Second Test *(s) (73244717)*

5.35 Neighbours (r) (Ceefax) (s) (538972)

6.00 News & Weather (427)

6.30 Regional News Magazines (779)

7.00 Holidays Out. From Strathclyde Country Park — host to the world *rowing* championships — Kirsty Young and Ben Hall *present more ideas for days out* across the country (Ceefax) (s) (4595)

7.30 EastEnders. *Sonia's behaviour baffles* Carol and Alan. Joe gives Lorraine and David *even more cause for concern* (Ceefax) (s) (663)

8.00 Back to the Wild. New series with Patrick Robinson going behind the scenes at the RSPCA's wildlife hospital in Somerset (Ceefax) (s) (3243)

8.30 Auntie's Sporting Bloomers. Terry Wogan introduces some bizarre interviews including an unforgettable chat with "Gazza", Paul Gascoigne. Plus the hazardous life of a BBC cameraman (*Ceefax*) (s) (2750)

9.00 News; Regional News; Weather (3088)

9.30 Atletico Partick. Football sit-com. Bonner drops Jack from the team for the cup match but at least he avoids Mambo, the dirtiest player in Sunday football. Meanwhile, Jack's wife Karen has a few dirty tricks of her own (Ceefax) (s) (93021)

10.00 Defence of the Realm (Ceefax) (s) (640601)

10.55 FILM: Crazy People (1990) An advertising executive's suggestion that *advertising should be totally truthful lands* him in a mental hospital. When his adverts are *accidentally published* they are a great success and the executive and his *fellow patients* form their own agency. Starring Dudley Moore, Daryl Hannah, *Paul Reiser, Mercedes Ruehl*, J. T. Walsh and David Paymer. Directed by Tony Bill (*Ceefax*) (s) (4666408)

12.25 FILM: Invasion of the Saucer Men (1957, b/w) with Steve Terrell, Gloria Castillo, Frank Gorshin, Raymond Hatton, Lyn Osborn and Russ Bender Classic, B-movie comedy. When a Martian is accidentally run over, *his crewmates seek* revenge by turning the population of the local village into alcoholics. *Directed by* Edward L Cahn (3633625)

1.30-1.35am Weather (6015199)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes

The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode™ numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+™ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. Videoplus+ (™), Pluscode (™) and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development *Ltd.*

6.00am Open University: *Education and Society* (3906682) **6.25 Issues in Women's Studies** (3925717) **6.50 New Forms of Partnership** (2893175)

7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (6241798)

7.30 The Brollys (1610363) **7.45 Lassie** *(1073359)* ***8.10 Smurfs' Adventures*** (5677682) **8.35 Cartoon Critters** (1888525) **9.05 *Spiderman*** *(2131866)* **9.25 The Village by the Sea** (7767885) ***9.50 Puppydog Tales*** (3358750) **10.00 Playdays** (7395330)

10.25 Man in a Suitcase *(Ceefax) (2067750)* **11.15 Resolute Bay Stories** (9235243) **12.00 Cricket** (s) (90934) **1.00pmThe Brollys** (45104885) **1.15 A-Z of Food** *(24126682)* ***1.25 Wear It Well*** (45183392) **1.40 The Oprah Winfrey Show** (Ceefax) (8254243) **2.20 Crawshaw Paints on Holiday** (87527408) ***2.45 A Life of Knowledge*** *(4677972)* **3.00 News** (1973798) **3.05 The Natural World** (1037021) **3.55 News** (3558069)

4.00 Cartoon (5707156) **4.05 Little Mouse *on the Prairie*** (*Ceefax*) *(3567717)* **4.30 Bouncing Back: The Best Bits of *Johnny* Ball** (*Ceefax*) (576) **5.00 Newsround** (Ceefax) (7336773) **5.10 Byker Grove** *(r) (Ceefax) (s) (4503663)*

5.35 Cricket — Second Test (s) (463446)

6.30 The Amazing Colossal Show. Examining 1950s B-movies (s) (791)

7.00 Seven Ages of Man. Professor Anthony Clare talks to Sir John Harvey Jones *about the change in pace and focus in his* life over the years (Ceefax) (s) (2137)

7.30 Sir — Peace with Honour? The last in the series focusing on letters to the Editor of *The Times* between 1913 and 1919 (b/w) (Ceefax) (s) (205)

8.00 The Street. Kirsty Young and her team of troubleshooters head for an Edinburgh council estate (Ceefax) (s) (1885)

8.30 One Foot in the Past. The heritage show calls for action to preserve the Firth of Forth Bridge (*Ceefax*) *(s) (6232)*

9.00 The Travel Show. Actress Anna Friel *travels along Italy's Amalfi coast. Travel* writer Jonathan Futrell visits London *townhouse hotels (s) (4330)*

9.30 Dark Secret: Sexual Aversion (1/6) (Ceefax) (s) *(91663)*

Wary donor Tony Hancock (10.00pm)

10.00 Hancock: The Blood Donor. Beginning a run of 34 of his comedy performances, 40 years after his first television series (r) *(b/w) (Ceefax) (84885)*

10.30 Newsnight (Ceefax) (602601)

11.15 Cricket — Second Test (s) (294866)

12.00 Grace Under Fire (s) (77644)

12.30am Open University: The Lyonnais: a *Changing Economy* *(40660)* **1.30 History of Technology** (34002) **2.00 Summer Nights: Great Outdoors Essentials** (28625) **4.00-6.00 España Viva/Diez Temas/Spanish Globo** (18151)

CHOICE

Back to the Wild

BBC1, 8.00pm (Scotland, 8.30pm)

Rolf Harris has started something. Before long there will hardly be an animal hospital *in the land that is not being overrun by* television crews. West Hatch, a hospital run *by the RSPCA in Somerset, is the focus of this* new series hosted by the *Casualty* actor Patrick Robinson. *West Hatch is unusual in* dealing only with wild animals. Its patients are not pets but badgers, owls, stoats and ducks, waiting to be patched up before being returned whence they came. Given the British fondness for animals, *Back to the Wild* is a series that can hardly fail. The sight of a little orphaned deer fawn hesitantly responding to a feeding bottle should be enough to soften the stoniest hearts. But those who have had their gardens dug up by foxes may be less enthusiastic about the time and attention lavished on four cubs.

Secret History: Mutiny in the RAF

Channel 4, 9.00pm

The strikes which broke out among RAF personnel in India and the Far East during *1946 are not exactly secret, since they were* reported in the press at the time. But they are *a little-known episode and worth recalling* while there are enough men still alive to give *first-hand accounts. The roots of the* discontent were the wretched living *conditions endured by ordinary servicemen* and the slow pace of repatriation in the RAF *compared with the other Services.* But there was a political dimension as well. Having *enlisted to fight fascism*, the men resented being kept on to prop up the British Empire. *The mutineers, of whom there were more* than 50,000 were denounced as Communists and four of their leaders court-martialled. But public opinion at home was mobilised *effectively in their defence.*

Dark Secret: Sexual Aversion

BBC2, 9.30pm

Before 1967, when homosexuality was legalised in Britain, many gay men were *shamed into trying aversion therapy* in an attempt to change their orientation. It was a *crude, painful and humiliating treatment* and there is no evidence, at least in this *disquieting film, that it worked.* Aversion therapy was developed by the Russian Pavlov, *in the 1920s. A homosexual would be* shown pictures of naked men and injected *with a drug to make him vomit.* The idea was that he would associate the two. A variation *of induced sickness was electric shock* treatment. Gays in the Armed Forces were *particularly vulnerable.* In 1962 a young army captain died as a result of the therapy, *though the death certificate said natural* causes. All these years later his sister is still *trying to discover the truth.*

Defence of the Realm: Top Brass

BBC1, 10.00pm

For such a grey-looking institution, the Ministry of Defence is rich in personalities. *Most television producers would be happy* just with Field Marshal Sir Peter Inge, the *twinkling, gnomic Chief of the Defence Staff*, and his extraordinary wardrobe of uniforms, *each more Ruritanian than the last.* But even he is upstaged by the bulky and booming Nicholas Soames, the Armed Forces Minister, who is as likely to come up with *anecdotes about his grandfather,* Sir Winston Churchill, or denounce tabloid press treatment of his friend, the Prince of Wales, as to ponder the deployment of British troops in Bosnia. The experienced Peter Taylor is the off-camera reporter, buttonholing politicians, military chiefs and Whitehall mandarins in corridors where cameras rarely stray. This promises to be an eye-opening series. **Peter Waymark**

6.00am GMTV *(4230040)*

9.25 Halfway across the Galaxy and Turn Left (r) (Teletext) (s) (7754311)

9.50 Hope and Gloria (5180392)

10.20 News (Teletext) (5406750)

10.25 Regional News (5405021)

10.30 People Like Us (40846392)

12.20pm Regional News *(Teletext)* (1883224)

12.30 News (Teletext) and weather (6881243)

12.55 Shortland Street (s) (6866934) ***1.25*** **Coronation Street** (r) (Teletext) (6623934) **2.00 Home and Away** (Teletext) (s) (87534798)

2.25 FILM: Once Upon a Spy *(1980)* starring Ted Danson, Mary Louise Weller and Christopher Lee Concluding yesterday's thriller. Directed by Ivan Nagy (3519886)

3.20 News *(Teletext) (1980088)*

3.25 Regional News (1989359)

3.30 The Riddlers (1512935) **3.40 Wizadora** (3189040) **3.50 Molly's Gang** (7912971) **4.05 Animaniacs** (6713296) **4.20 Blazing Dragons** (2295021) **4.45 The Scoop** (1420595)

5.10 A Country Practice (s) (5834359)

5.40 News (Teletext) and weather (291345)

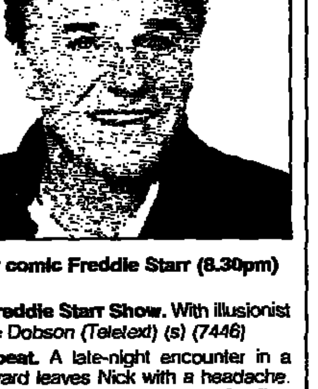
6.00 Home and Away (r) (Teletext) (193446)

6.25 HTV News (Teletext) (785330)

7.00 Emmerdale. Kim gets her revenge; Kathy has an awkward chat to Alice: and Bill has something to say to Linda (Teletext) (s) (9663)

7.30 The Big Story. Dermot Murnaghan and the team expose the scandal of untried and untested artificial hips being used on thousands of British patients (359)

8.00 The Bill. When a drunk is brutally *assaulted, Greig suspects that* somebody has been trying to buy his silence *with booze (Teletext) (8311)*



Zany comic Freddie Starr (8.30pm)

8.30 The Freddie Starr Show. With illusionist *Wayne Dobson (Teletext) (s) (7446)*

9.00 Heartbeat. A late-night encounter in a graveyard leaves Nick with a headache. With Nick Berry (r) (Teletext) (s) (5935)

10.00 News (Teletext) and weather (71311)

10.30 Regional News (Teletext) (810243)

10.40 Unbridled Passions. The last of the series on top horse trainer Philip Hobbs follows four of Philip's horses over the three days of the Cheltenham Festival (617682)

11.10 Summer Getaways. Last in series (s) (277514)

11.40 Bodies of Evidence *(r)* (935601)

12.35 Cue the Music (s) (4565809)

1.35 Not Fade Away (s) (8691915)

2.35 Flux (s) (8992809)

3.35 Late & Loud (r) (s) (8469408)

4.30 The Time . . . the Place *(83815)*

5.00 Grass Roots (87118)

5.30 Morning News (72199)

As HTV WEST except:

6.25pm-7.00 Wales Tonight (785330)

7.30 A Visit to the Eisteddfod (359)

10.40 The Sherman Plays (617682)

11.10-11.40 The Big Story (277514)

WESTCOUNTRY

As HTV West except:

10.30am Film: This Wife for Hire (40846392)

12.55pm Emmerdale (6866934)

1.25 Cross Wits (83477750)

1.55 Home and Away (58109953)

2.25 Sixth Sense (87537885)

2.55-3.20 A *Country Practice* (1943175)

6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (16972)

10.45 On the Edge (771514)

11.15 Roadrunner (778427)

11.45 Prisoner Cell Block H (468514)

CENTRAL

As HTV West except:

10.30am Film: This Wife for Hire (40846392)

12.55pm Home and Away (6866934)

1.25 Cross Wits (83477750)

1.55 A Country Practice (89107392)

2.20 Sixth Sense (87538514)

2.50-3.20 High Road *(5426514)*

6.25 Central News and Weather (178137)

10.40 London Bridge (617682)

11.10-11.40 Revelations (277514)

12.40am Carnal Knowledge (4557880)

1.40 Not Fade Away *(8690286)*

2.40 Flux (8984880)

3.40 The Crime Hour (9019147)

MERIDIAN

As HTV West except:

9.50-10.20 Sandokan (5180392)

10.30 Worzel Gummidge Down Under (89330)

11.00 Dogtanian (5435514)

11.25 Beakman's World (5438601)

11.55 Dungeons and Dragons (2546458)

12.55pm Emmerdale (6866934)

1.25 Home and Away *(83477750)*

1.55 Shortland Street (89107392)

2.20 Sixth Sense (87538514)

2.50-3.20 Doing It Up (5426514)

6.00 Meridian Tonight (595)

6.30-7.00 Grass Roots *(175)*

10.45 Film: Caddyshack II (23459330)

12.35am Phoenix (4565809)

S4C

Starts: 6.35 Star Street (2867750) ***7.00 The Big Breakfast*** (18427) **9.00 *California Dreams*** *(7773446)* ***9.25 The Secret World of*** **Alex Mack** (7743205) **9.55 Hangin with Mr Cooper** (6982798) **10.20 Pink Panther** (2716663) **10.45 The Adventures of Tintin** (687576) **11.15 Biker Mice from Mars** (8709682) **11.35 Insektors** (3624412) **11.50 Rocko's Modern Life** (8939595) **12.05pm Mork and Mindy** (6017408) **12.30 Love and Marriage** (83345) **1.00 Slot Meithrin** (11514) **1.30 Terrytoons** (42186885) **1.45 Film: I Didn't Do It** (33937953) **3.30 Countdown** (953) **4.00 Backdate** (208) **4.30 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol** (68021) **6.00 Newyddion** (540330) **6.15 Heno** (401866) **7.00 Pobol Y Cwm** (281595) **7.25 Bancar** (135840) **8.00 Newyddion** (6953) **8.30 Eisteddfod Genedlaethol** (50243) **9.30 Eisteddfod I Dot** (26359) **10.00 Pel-droed** (377243) **10.35 Film: Privates on Parade** (51476717) **12.40am War Cries: Knockback** (8212170)

6.35am Star Street *(r) (2867750)*

7.00 The Big Breakfast (18427)

9.00 California Dreams (r) (7773446)

9.25 The Secret World of Alex Mack (r) (s) (7743205) **9.55 Hangin' with Mr Cooper** (r) (Teletext) (s) (6982798) **10.20 Pink Panther** (r) (s) (2716663) **10.45 The Adventures of Tintin** (r) (s) (5725885) **11.10 Biker Mice from Mars** (r) (Teletext) (7841514) **11.35 Insektors** (r) (3624412) **11.50 Rocko's Modern Life** (r) (8939595) **12.05pm Mork and *Mindy*** (r) *(4040953)*

12.30 Lonely Planet (r) (Teletext) (s) (83345) **1.00 Sesame Street** (r) (9791682) **1.55 Wales** (45163663)

2.05 FILM: Libel (1959 b/w). Dirk Bogarde sues a Canadian airman for libel after being accused of murder and impersonating a prisoner-of-war. Robert Morley is his barrister and Olivia de Havilland his wife Even she has her doubts. Directed by Anthony Asquith (Teletext) *(764514)*

4.00 Backdate (Teletext) (s) (208) **4.30 Countdown** (Teletext) (s) (972) **5.00 Ricki Lake** (Teletext) (s) (8900359) **5.45 Terrytoons** (328682)

6.00 Eerie Indiana (r) (Teletext) (137)

6.30 Boy Meets World (Teletext) (s) (717)

7.00 Channel 4 News (Teletext) (194359)

7.50 The Slot (980514)

8.00 Black Bag. *Following the build-up to the* permanent expulsion of four Birmingham *teenagers through their eyes and those of* their teachers, parents and governors. A *recording on an exclusion hearing is also* included (Teletext) (s) (6953)

8.30 Home to Roost. Henry stands for the council as an independent candidate but *where does Matthew stand?* With John Thaw and Reece Dinsdale (Teletext) (5088)

Unrest builds in the RAF (9.00pm)

9.00 Secret History: Mutiny in the RAF *(Teletext) (s) (8427)*

10.00 FILM: How to Get Ahead in *Advertising.* *(1989) A black satire on* consumerism starring Richard E Grant *as a brilliant advertising executive* He is beset by a creative block which is lifted *when a stress boil on his neck metamor*phoses into his doppelganger. Also starring Rachel Ward, Richard Wilson, John Shrapnel and Jacqueline Tong. Directed by Bruce Robinson (Teletext) (s) (563359)

11.45 Adult Ricki(Teletext) (s) (466156)

12.35am Kids in the Hall (r) (Teletext) (s) (8220199) **1.05 Beavis and Butthead** (r) (s) (4209267)

1.35 Let the Blood Run Free (*r*) (8582129)

2.05 FILM: Washington Merry Go Round (1932 b/w). Brash new Congressman (Lee Tracy) exposes corrupt government officials (including Alan Dinehart) helped by old-timers Constance Cummings and Walter Connolly. Directed by James Cruze (7523809). **Ends at 3.25**

● **For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Vision supplement, published Saturday**

SKY ONE

7.00am *Undun* (38205) **9.00** Press Your Luck (4192021) **9.20** Love Connection (1916330) **9.45** Oprah Winfrey (2314392) **9.40** Jeopardy! (6487840) **11.10** Sally Jessy Raphael (8754243) **12.00** Code 3 ([illegible]) ***12.30pm*** *Designing Women* (59601) **1.00** Hotel (54156) **2.00** Geraldo (25243) **3.00** Court TV (8330) **3.30** Oprah Winfrey (5933446) **4.15** Undun (1172069) **5.00** Quantum Leap (9682) **6.00** Beverly *Hills 90210 (34392)* ***7.00*** *Spellbound* (3381) **7.30** M*A*S*H (3137) **8.00** Through the Keyhole (6359) **8.30** The World at Their Feet (5866) **9.00** The Commish *(47525)* ***10.00*** Quantum Leap (74934) **11.00** Highlander (58069) **12.00** Late Show with David Letterman (4603593) **12.45am** Napolean and Josephine A Love Story (6549460) **1.30** Smouldering *Lust (11286)* **2.00** Hit Mix Long Play (8847248)

SKY NEWS

News on the hour
6.00am Sunrise (2176392) ***9.30*** *Beyond* 2000 (53427) **10.30** ABC Nightline (51232) **1.30pm** *CBS News This Morning* (56514) **2.30** CBS News This Morning (3514) **3.30** *Beyond 2000* (5359) **6.30** Tonight with Simon McCoy (5595) ***7.30 Sportsline*** *(1779)* **8.30** Reuters Reports (3408) **11.30** CBS *Evening News* (11040) **12.30am** ABC World News Tonight (66064) **1.30** Tonight with Simon McCoy Replay (19828) **2.30** Reuters Reports (60538) ***3.30*** *Beyond 2000* (84118) **4.30** CBS Evening News (83915) **5.30** ABC *World News* Tonight (14199)

SKY MOVIES

[illegible]5am Anne of Green Gables (1934) ([illegible]) **8.00 The Big Show (1961)** (16595) **10.00 Meteor Man *(1993)*** *(60717)* **12.00 The Way West (1967)** (39446) **2.00pm *The Sandlot* (1993)** (98514) **4.00 A Christmas Without Snow (1980)** (4514) **6.00 Meteor Man (1993)** (86303446) **7.40** US Top Ten (850412) ***8.00 A Vow to Kill*** **(1994)** (80595) **10.00 Final Combination (1993)** (984953) **11.35 *Knights*** **(1992)** (759514) **1.10am The Bait (1995)** *(268460)* ***3.10 A Part of the Family*** **(1993)** (5104915) **4.40-6.00 Anne of Green Gables *(1934)*** (4426557)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

12.00 The Land That Time Forgot (1975) (50088) **2.00pm Funny Girl (1968)** (90713021) **4.25 Desire (1936)** (21973885) **6.00 The Barkleys of Broadway (1949)** (50392) ***8.00 Alfie (1966)*** *(82137)* **10.00 Al Range (1986)** (34866) **12.00 The Believers (1987)** (608915) **1.55am The Barkleys of Broadway (1949)** (259644) **3.45-5.20 Love in the Afternoon (1972)** (212880)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

6.00am A-haunting We Will Go (1942) (12021) **7.30 Runaway Express (1992)** (35972) **9.00 Rigoletto (1993)** (66120296) **10.45 Connecticut Yankee** *(4557494)* **12.05pm The Black Rose (1950)** (53584750) **2.10 The Devil's Bed (1994)** (831885) **4.00 Spider-man: Photo Finish/ a Matter of State (1973)** (2156) **6.00 *Whose Child is This? the War for Baby* Jessica (1993)** (76392) **8.00 Lassie (1994)** (36232) **9.30 The Movie Show: Independennce Day Special** (62175) **10.00 Speed (1994)** (43576) **12.00 A *Women Scorned* (1993)** (400335) **1.50am Blueberry Hill (1987)** (436731) **3.25-6.00 Rildd and Pete (1988)** (66447489)

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

Sky Movies Gold *takes over from 10pm to 4am.*
6.05am Quack Attack (74556798) **6.30** Chip 'N Dales Rescue Rangers (64797137) **6.55** Chip 'N Dales Rescue Rangers (64709972) ***7.20*** *Ducktales* (97895663) **7.45** Ducktales (87646953) **8.10** Quack Attack (69994243) **8.35** Darkwing Duck (67244137) **9.00** Darkwing Duck (13277601) **9.25** Quack Attack (70526798) **10.00** Disney (74908446) **10.55** Chip N Dale Rescue Rangers (52823408) **11.20** Chip 'N Dale Rescue Rangers (49079779) **11.45** Muppet *Babies (7129159S)* **12.05pm** Adventures in Wonderland (76756069) **12.30** Lamb Chops Play Along! (95446311) **1.00** Tarzan (83097392) **1.30** Flipper (51830311) **2.20** Teen Angel (93728359) **2.30** Eyewitness *(88382359)* **3.00** Ducktales (31633392) **3.25** Quack Attack *(31652427)* **3.50** Chip 'N Dales Rescue Rangers (72788345) **4.15** Darkwing Duck (37819040) **4.40** Darkwing Duck (48735779) **5.00** Gargoyles (39434175) **5.30** Disney (53664243) **6.30** Home Improvement (88347040) **7.00** Just Like Family (39414311) **7.30** Faerie Tale Theatre (44096021) **8.30** Gargoyles (97023934) **9.30-10.00** Home Improvement (95466175)

EUROSPORT

7.30am Athletics (59576) **9.00** Triathlon (94972) **10.00** Motors (41576) **11.30** Eurofun (88663) **12.00** Formula 1 (91224) **12.30pm** Motorcycling Magazine (29595) ***1.00*** *Olympic* Games (43663) **3.00** Offroad (99779) **4.00** Trial (15494) **5.00** Truck Racing (7866) **6.00** Live Tennis (9206885) **10.00** Truck Racing (38156) **11.00** Sailing (65953) **11.30** Motorcycling Magazine (51682) **12.00-12.30am** Formula 1 (46712)

SKY SPORTS

7.00am Ford Scorpio Golf USA US PGA Championships — Live (5291311) **11.00** *Formula Three Racing* (92866) **11.30** Tight Lines (25798) **12.30pm** Golf US Seniors VFW Championships and the Nike Tour Gateway (538953) **3.00** Inside the PGA Tour (1446) **3.30** Futbol Mundial (9755) **4.00** Wrestling — Action Zone (16446) **5.00** Ford Scorpio Golf USA US PGA Championship — Live (87021) **7.00** Sports Centre (283088) ***7.05*** *Tight Lines (789250)* ***8.00*** International Cricket Highlights (24953) **10.00** Sports Centre (946359) **10.15** Boots 'n' All (335021) **11.15** City Centre Cycling (331205) **12.15am** Watersports World *(351373)* **1.15** Boots 'n' All (357557) **2.15-2.30** Sports Centre (5734202)

SKY SPORTS 2

7.00pm Ford Scorpio Golf USA US PGA Championships — Live *(9348779)* ***11.00*** Formula Three Racing (5416576) **11.30** Tight Lines (8399601) **12.30-1.00am** Futbol Mundial (1855199)

THE CHRISTIAN CHANNEL

4.00am Thought for the Day **4.05** Worship **4.15** Kidz TV **4.30** Morris Cerullo Victory **5.00** Kenneth & Gloria Copeland Voice of Victory **5.30** Christian Music TV **5.45** Benny Hinn This is Your Day **6.15** *Creflo Dollar:* Changing Your World **6.45-7.00** Good Morning Europe

SKY SOAP

7.00am Guiding Light (7059327) **7.55** As the World Turns (9474175) **8.50** *Peyton* Place (5471088) ***9.20*** *Days of Our Lives* (5604866) **10.10-11.00** Another World (5754934)

SKY TRAVEL

11.00am Boomerang (5424595) **11.30** Great Sports Vacations (5425224) **12.00** UK Today (3603156) **12.30pm** *Pierre Francy's* Cooking in France (2370309) **1.00** Getaway (2707446) **1.30** On Top of the World *(7225250)* **2.00** Ghost Towns of the Old West (5757798) **3.00** Globetrotter (2288330) **3.30** Around the World in 30 *Minutes (2876917)* ***3.55-4.00*** *Holiday Shop* (75978243)

Jolanta Umecka and Zygmunt Malanowicz (Bravo, 4.00pm)

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

4.00pm Memories of 1983 (5448175) **5.00** Churchill's Few (2279682) ***6.00-7.00*** *Biog*raphy (7425458)

THE SCI-FI CHANNEL

Films, features and classic sci-fi series every day from **8am-2am** on cable and **1am-4am**, plus **7pm-10pm** Monday-Wed*nesday, on satellite*
1.00am The Six Million Dollar Man (2293480) **2.00** FILM Invasion Earth The Aliens are Here (6086860) **3.30-4.00** Robotech (3298373)

TLC

9.00am The Joy of Painting (7167175) **9.30** Grow Your Own (9172392) **10.00** Neat Stuff (6392224) **10.30** Home Again (7163359) **11.00** The Painted House (5768953) **11.30** Room for Improvement (5769682) **12.00** *Julia Child (7147311)* **12.30pm** *The Frugal* Gourmet (9183408) **1.00** Simply Delicious (2535576) **1.30** This Old House (9182779) **2.00** This Old House (5142935) **2.30** Garden Club (1319066) **3.00** Fishing Adventures (9663972) **3.30-4.00** This Old *House (6381583)*

UK GOLD

7.00am Happy Ever After (2538683) **7.30** Neighbours (2557798) **8.00** Angels (7146682) **8.30** Dear John: USA (7145953) **9.00** The Bill (7136205) **9.30** The Sullivans (9174750) ***10.00*** *Bergerac (2546682)* ***11.00*** Bullseye (5760311) **11.30** Tellystack (5761040) **12.00** Sale of the Century (7156069) **12.30pm** Neighbours (9185866) **1.00** Till Death Us Do Part (2537934) **1.30** *Hi-De-Hi (4546885)* ***2.20*** *Ever Decreasing Circles* (3742917) **2.55** Butterflies (9318953) **3.30** The Bill (8864791) **4.00** One by One (87774427) **5.05** Tellystack (85400934) **5.35** Bullseye (7689156) **6.05** *You Rang, M'Lord? (8749583)* ***7.05*** *The Two* Ronnies (5980717) **8.00** The Other One (3247309) **8.30** Up the Elephant and Round the Castle (4792494) **9.00** Miss Marple (27975682) **10.05** The Bill (2193798) **10.40** Canned Carrott (5121040) **11.20** The Sweeney (2684953) **12.25am FILM: Genevieve (44628880)** **1.50** Shopping

TCC

6.00am Tiny TCC: Sesame Street (94408) **7.00** Tiny and Crew (2795021) **7.15** *Rosie and Jim (1521601)* ***7.30*** *Greedysaurus and* the Gang (2774069) **7.40** 10+2 (3618514) **7.50** Robin and Rosie of Cockleshell Bay (3614798) **8.00** Barney and Friends (30137) **8.30** Dinobabies (39408) **9.00** Art Attack (53088) **9.30** Byker Grove (67779) **10.00** Heartbreak High (69224) **11.00** Madison (36224) **11.30** Hang Time (37953) **12.00** Degrassi *Junior High* (33224) **12.30pm** Pugwall's Summer (61595) **1.00** California Dreams (50576) **1.30** Meltdown: Cybernet (60866) **2.00** Ready or Not (3069) **2.30** Madison (2446) **3.00** Heartbreak High *(48069)* ***4.00*** *California Dreams* (3798) **4.30-5.00** Byker Grove (2682)

NICKELODEON

6.00am Bananas in Pyjamas (5677156) **6.15** Mr Men (5665311) **6.30** Babar (44392) **7.00** Littlest Pet Shop (83779) **7.30** Turtles (95514) **8.00** Biker Mice from Mars (94311) **8.30** Mighty Max (93682) **9.00** Rugrats (71066) **10.00** Real Monsters (68972) **10.30** *Doug (13446)* ***11.00*** *Rocko (90408)* ***11.30*** Pete & Pete (91137) **12.00** Alex Mack (17318) **12.30pm** Ren & Stimpy (32069) **1.00** Santo Bugito (75750) **1.30** Capital Critters (24040) **2.00** Ferrals (5363) **2.30** *Mighty Max (9330)* **3.00** Biker Mice from Mars (9088) **3.30** Real Monsters (1175) **4.00** Tales from the Cryptkeeper (4822) **4.30** Rugrats (6866) **5.00** Sister Sister (3040) **6.00** Alex Mack (7359) **6.30-7.00** Are You Afraid of the Dark? (1311)

DISCOVERY

4.00pm Around Whicker's World — the Ultimate Package (5759205) **5.00** Time Travellers (1447327) **5.30** Jurassica (1014214) **6.00** Beyond 2000 (9191427) **7.00** Wild Things Wombats, Bulldozers of the Bush (1542971) ***7.30*** *Mysteries, Magic* and Miracles (4369381) **8.00** The Professionals (1598224) **9.00** Driving Passions (5788717) **9.30** Flightline (9196972) **10.00** Classic Wheels (1511175) **11.00-12.00** The *Science of Sex (2545953)*

BRAVO

12.00 Robin Hood (7141137) **12.30pm** William Tell (9170934) **1.00** The Buccaneers (2555330) **1.30** Sir Lancelot (9179205) **2.00** Department S (6897779) **3.00** The Saint (5767224) **4.00 FILM: Knife in the Water** (2792214) **6.00** UFO (9188953) **7.00** Randall and Hopkirk (Deceased) (1509330) **8.00** Land of the Giants (1585750) **9.00** Twin Peaks (1505514) **10.00-12.00 FILM: Roadhouse 66** (5765595)

PARAMOUNT

7.00pm Family Ties (1069) **7.30** Entertain*ment* (7595) **8.00** Wings (5507) **8.30** Laverne & Shirley (9224) **9.00** Soap (15412) **9.30** Taxi (12205) **10.00** Entertainment Tonight (52917) ***10.30*** *Dr Katz* (14175) **11.00** Home Court (15717) **11.30** London Underground (64156) **12.00** Carnal Knowledge (56286) **1.00am** Soap (15538) **1.30** Taxi (55644) **2.00** Entertainment Tonight *(59557)* ***2.30*** *Wings (38064)* ***3.00*** *Dr Katz* (28002) **3.30-4.00** Home Court (52644)

UK LIVING

6.00am Kilroy (7351885) **7.00** Esther (7051446) **7.30** The Young and the Restless (8206953) **8.20** Gladrags and Glamour (6819175) **8.30** Rhodes Around Britain (8915243) **9.05** Rolanda (8398427) **9.35** Kate & Allie (5245311) **10.00** Entertainment Now! (7696156) **10.05** The Jerry Springer Show (5141175) **11.00** The Young and the Restless (7362088) **11.55** Brookside (5919427) **12.30pm** Gabrielle (6999601) **1.20** Catchword (2969069) **2.00** Cagney and Lacey (3084156) **3.00** The Summer Show (1670934) **4.00** Infatuation UK (7310021) **4.30** Crosswits (5010972) **5.05** Lingo (64811750) **5.30** Lucky Ladders (7330885) **6.00** Bewitched (7337798) **6.30** Ready, Steady, Cook (6183953) **7.05** Brookside (3330971) **7.35** Trivial Pursuit (9068595) **8.00** Street Legal (1636408) **9.00** **FILM: Hollow Point** (1639595) **11.00-12.00** The Sex Files II (7037866)

FAMILY CHANNEL

5.00pm Through the Keyhole (7021) **5.30** My Two Dads (3934) **6.00** Batman (3175) **6.30** Catchphrase (4427) **7.00** All Clued Up *(7885)* ***7.30*** *The Fall Guy (75040)* ***8.30*** Only When I Laugh (5040) **9.00** Father Dowling (84359) **10.00** Treasure Hunt (87446) **11.00** Sirens (60953) **12.00** The Fall Guy (92002) **1.00am** Batman (44064) **1.30** Father Dowling (89035) **2.30** All Together Now (74880) **3.00** Big Brother Jake (64828) **3.30** GP (98450) **4.00** All Clued Up (88625) **4.30-5.00** Night Hood (65557)

MTV

7.30am Oasis Rockumentary (72798) **8.00** Morning Mix (936040) **11.00** Star Trax (81446) **12.00** MTV's Greatest Hits (82088) **1.00pm** Music Non-Stop (26021) **3.00** Select MTV (40427) **4.00** Hanging Out Summertime (99430) **5.30** Dial MTV (5392) **6.00** Hanging Extra (2205) **6.30** The Big Picture (6885) **7.00** Star Trax (57205) **8.00** TBC (56953) **9.00** Singled Out (59175) **10.30** MTV's Beavis & Butt-head (52359) **11.00** Headbangers' Ball (18750) **1.00-5.00am** Videos (3681335)

VH-1

7.00am Power Breakfast (2706717) **9.00** *Cafe VH-1 (2187412)* **12.00** Heart and Soul (1025412) **1.00pm** The Vinyl Years (9025232) **2.00** Ten of the Best (5759156) **3.00** Into the Music (9515885) **6.00** Happy Hour (5625476) **7.00** VH-1 for You (3837039) **8.00** Thursday Review (4090917) **9.00** Ten of the Best (8490773) **10.00** The '80s Vinyl Years (5240250) **11.00** Music *First (2786953)* ***12.00*** *VH-1 to 1 (8108016)* **12.30am** The Bridge (1857557) **1.00** Ten of the Best (6998088) **2.00** Dawn Patrol (3297644)

CMT EUROPE

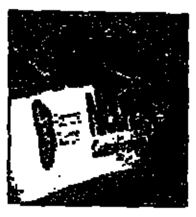
Country music from **6am to 7pm on satellite, 24 hours on cable,** including **5pm** Saturday Nite Dance Ranch **6pm-7pm** Big Ticket

ZEE TV

7.00am Jaagran (37012175) **7.30** Life Style East (27279663) **8.30** Pbu (57949224) **9.00** *Sitaron Ka Karvan (57930576)* ***9.30*** Your Zindagi (92445934) **10.00** Bharat Ek Khoj (37097866) **11.00** Shakti (40038446) **11.30** Banegi Apni Baat (40039175) **12.00** Destaan (57943040) **12.30pm** Parivartan *(92449750)* **1.00 FILM: Aap Ki Kasam** (20785089) **4.00** Zee Top Ten (40029798) **5.00** Zee Zone (64710296) **5.30** Kya Scene Hai (40581243) **6.00** Naye Tarane (40586156) **6.30** Zee & U (40579408) **7.00** Ten Bhi Chup Men Bhi Chup (54815840) **7.30** Galaxzee (40568392) **8.00** News (34015048) **8.30** Andaz (13918224) **11.00** Commander (40020427) **11.30-12.00** Aap Ki Farmaish (91081779)

CARTOON NETWORK/TNT

Continuous cartoons from 5am to 7pm, **then TNT films as below.**
7.00pm Here at Large (1980) (83016427) **9.00 Crazy from the Heart (1991)** (95610069) **11.00 Clash by Night (1952)** (54617330) **12.55am Bride to Be (1974)** (20395538) **2.35-5.00 Third Finger, Left Hand (1940)** (20215731)



SAILING 40
Drinking in the view from the ramparts

SPORT

GOLF 42
Watson thirsts for success at Valhalla

THURSDAY AUGUST 8 1996

Two spins of coin will influence outcome of second Test at Leeds

Caddick heightens England hopes

By Alan Lee
Cricket Correspondent

SOMETIMES, the toss of a coin can be too important to a cricket match, influencing its outcome more than any individual can do. Today at Headingley, the coin will be tossed twice before the second Cornhill Test against Pakistan and if Michael Atherton wins both, as he will feel entitled to do, England have a clear opportunity of levelling this three-match series.

Conditions in Leeds yesterday were much to England's liking — until late afternoon it rained steadily and the Test pitch was under three layers of covering. It has perspired in private for two days now and if, as the meteorologists promise, drier weather allows a prompt start this morning, the bowlers will be jostling to get at it. "It will seam," pronounced David Lloyd, the England coach, with evident satisfaction. "No question."

Double toss 1
Family affair 40
John Woodcock 41
Injury troubles 41

As Lloyd is well aware, however, this will only work fully to England's advantage if Atherton's luck with the toss improves, along with the quality of England's seam bowling. By last evening, England were virtually committed to an all-seam attack, which would mean omitting Ronnie Irani and Ian Salisbury, and Atherton was perhaps perfecting new methods of spinning the coin.

He has lost every toss for choice of innings in the four Tests played so far this summer and, before the last game at Lord's, he also lost the toss for choice of balls. The ability of Pakistan's bowlers to reverse-swing the Reader ball when it reaches middle-age, so devastatingly demonstrated by Waqar Younis at Lord's, makes England firm supporters of the alternative Duke balls and makes this subsidiary toss almost as significant as the real thing.

Atherton needed the protection of an umbrella when he and Wasim Akram made a brief inspection of the pitch at Headingley yesterday. Photograph: Hugh Routledge

Lloyd plainly thinks so, anyway. Pressed upon which toss he would prefer to win, his features contorted in thought before he finally said: "I suppose the toss for innings. But really, I'd like to be greedy and play with our choice of ball, too."

Lloyd is among those who believe, quite logically, that there should be legislation on use of a single type of ball, worldwide, putting an end to the drama that will pass unseen and largely unknown by the majority who will be present today.

For most of those at the ground yesterday, the state of the pitch was also unseen and unknown. England are certainly relying on a good covering of grass rather than the dry, dusty conditions for the last game when, as Atherton mused: "We might have been at Faisalabad rather than Lord's.

"Four years ago, when we beat Pakistan here in four days, conditions were very friendly to English-type seam bowling," he recalled. The identity of the bowler England chose to exploit that pitch, Neil Mallender, would now make a taxing quiz question. He took eight wickets in the game but played only one more Test before returning to the backwaters of county cricket. Today, Mallender's successor as the strike bowler at Somerset, Andy Caddick, is England's trump card.

"Caddick is in a rich vein of form," said Atherton. "And it should suit him here." Indeed it should, especially if Atherton takes the selection to its logical conclusion by giving Caddick the new ball. As a bowler of great height who hits the seam more often than most, he is the likeliest of England's quartet to inconvenience the Pakistanis with lateral movement.

More likely, on present form, than even Dominic Cork, who is causing the management a few anxieties, not least by bowling 21 overs unchanged in a championship game for Derbyshire last week.

"He is not bowling quite as well as he was last year and, as our strike bowler, it is worrying that he is playing so much cricket," Atherton said. It isn't helpful when he bowls that kind of spell between Tests but maybe it was his own fault — it can be hard to get the ball out of his hands.

"I am conscious of the need not to overbowl Cork and when we are in Zimbabwe at the end of the year he will play in the Tests but not a lot else," added the captain, a view fully endorsed by his coach.

"I have had a chat with Dominic today," Lloyd said. "He is a very upfront character and he is still confident about his bowling. I'm certain it will happen for him soon."

Lloyd welcomed the findings of the Acfield working party which, if accepted by the Test and County Cricket Board on August 20, will give him authority to rest Cork, and others, from county cricket when necessary. It will also empower him to engage his own coaching team, a unit in which there is to be no immediate place for Ian Botham. "He's a busy boy," said Lloyd, who is looking to nominate one coach for the winter tour, and it will not be Botham.

A frustrating morning of cancelled nets, exacerbated by the indoor school being taken over for corporate catering purposes, allowed Lloyd to speak at length to his players, who studied videos aimed at helping them to counter the devilish swinging yorkers of Waqar and Wasim — balls on which the state of the pitch, green or white, wet or dry, has no bearing.

Pakistan have been forced into one change. Aamir Sohail has a wrist in plaster to correct soft tissue damage and Asif Mujtaba will deputise. But Wasim's policy will remain unaltered.

"There will be a result here, definitely," he said. "We are going to play positively." England will not want reminding, but he said the same thing on the eve of the Lord's Test, and he was as true as his word.

DETAILS

ENGLAND (from): M A Atherton (captain), A J Stewart, N Hussain, G P Thorpe, J P Crawley, N V Knight, C C Lewis, R C Russell, D G Cork, A R Caddick, A D Mullally, R C Irani, I D K Salisbury.

PAKISTAN (from): Wasim Akram (captain), Shadab Kabir, Saeed Anwar, Ijaz Ahmed, Inzamam-ul-Haq, Salim Malik, Asif Mujtaba, Rashid Latif, Mushtaq Ahmed, Waqar Younis, Ata-ur-Rehman, Saqlain Mushtaq, Mohammad Akram, Shahid Nazir

Umpires: D R Shepherd (Eng) and S A Bucknor (WI). Third umpire: R Julian (Eng). Match referee: P van der Merwe (SA).

Weather: Cloudy start, rain in afternoon

Blackburn dismiss all talk of signing Klinsmann

By Peter Ball

JÜRGEN KLINSMANN is not going to provide the solace for Blackburn Rovers supporters mourning the loss of the departed Alan Shearer. Football's rumour factory was in full swing yesterday, claiming that the Germany captain was moving from Munich to East Lancashire, but it was just another rumour.

Klinsmann spent the summer denying that he would leave Bayern and yesterday he was finally moved to issue a statement to that effect through his lawyers, while Blackburn denied any contact. Blackburn also denied reports that they are signing Robbie Elliott, Newcastle United's England Under-21 international full back, for around £3 million.

Manchester United had also been linked with Klinsmann, although Alex Ferguson, the United manager, also denied any move yesterday. "I am perfectly happy with the strikers already on the payroll at Old Trafford," he said.

United finally received clearance for Jordi Cruyff from the Spanish Football Association yesterday and both he and Karel Poborsky, the Czech Republic player, are expected to make their debuts in the FA Charity Shield on Sunday. They may be joined unexpectedly by Roy Keane after a scan revealed no damage to the knee he injured in the Umbro Cup tournament last weekend.

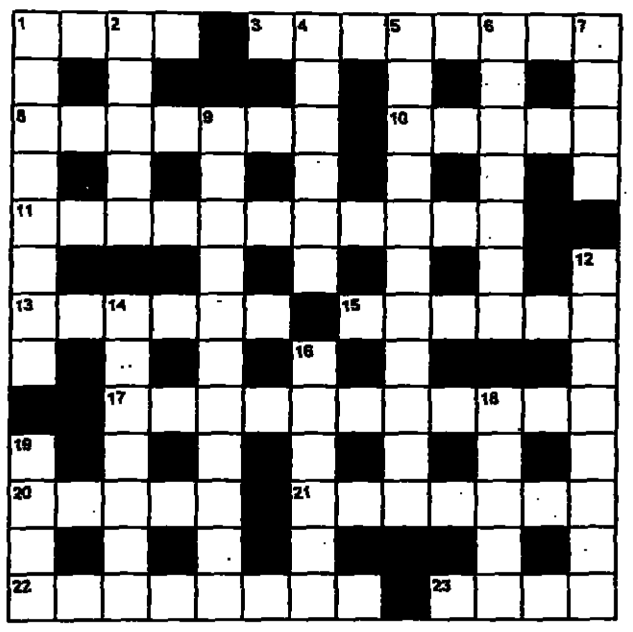
With Tyneside agog with excitement at Shearer's arrival, Kevin Keegan, the Newcastle manager, said supporters may have a chance to see Shearer before Sunday. He is expected to play at Lincoln City on Friday, a game that is already a sell-out.

Neville Southall's transfer to Wolverhampton Wanderers looked unlikely to go through last night. Southall is expected to stay at Everton.

After their failure to sign Attilio Lombardo, Sheffield Wednesday may turn their attention to Georgi Kinkladze, Manchester City's most prized possession. That move, too, seems doomed to failure, at least for the time being. In addition, City have refused to reduce their asking price for Niall Quinn, rejecting a renewed offer of £[illegible] million from Sunderland.

TIMES TWO CROSSWORD

No 855 in association with BRITISH MIDLAND



ACROSS

1 Small eating-place (4)
3 Available and suitable (8)
8 Man raised from dead by Jesus (7)
10 Dog-lead: the eager strain at it (5)
11 Word-origin expert (11)
13 Make over (6)
15 Edible-shoot tropical grass (6)
17 (Force) moving away from centre (11)
20 N African mountains: Gk. strongman (5)
21 Refuse to buy (from) in protest (7)
22 Shortened (book) (8)
23 Aid to solution (4)

DOWN

1 Dead-end road (3-2-3)
2 Imprecise (5)
4 Supple, agile (6)
5 Hotch-potch (11)
6 Lucky dip (4,3)
7 To repeat exactly (4)
9 Arranged in new order (11)
12 Gambling game, with wheel (8)
14 Worldly; non-church (7)
16 Boy chorister (6)
18 (Dog) call threateningly (5)
19 Tibetan priest (4)

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THE WINNER will receive a return ticket travelling economy class to anywhere on British Midland's domestic or international network.
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British Midland

Post your entry to Times Two Crossword, PO Box 6886, London E2 8SP to arrive by next Monday. The winners' names and solution will appear on Wednesday.

Name/Address ....

SOLUTION TO NO 854
ACROSS: 5 Trance 7 Device 9 Richard I 11 Scud 12 Hoist 13 Athens 15 Search 17 Virgo 19 Heal 20 Dear John 22 Floral 23 Russet
DOWN: 1 Starch 2 Veer 3 Adrift 4 Read 6 Archipelago 8 Incongruous 10 Altar 14 Hover 16 Cuddle 18 Ornate 19 Haft 21 Airy

Edwards fails to find his drive

From David Powell
Athletics Correspondent
in Sestriere

THE £90,000 Ferrari proved as elusive as the Olympic gold medal for Jonathan Edwards yesterday. But Allen Johnson had even more to lose by being here. Johnson, the Olympic 110 metres hurdles champion, rejected President Clinton's invitation to the White House to try for the car, but was not even close to driving it away.

This Italian skiing resort presents an opportunity annually for athletes to chase world records knowing that, if they succeed, the keys to a Ferrari Spider await. The temptation is all the greater for Sestriere standing at 2,050 metres, offering sprinters and jumpers the performance benefits of high altitude, not to mention attractive appearance fees.

More often than not, though, the venue is cursed with gusting winds and such was the case yesterday, in the first meeting on the professional circuit since the Olympic Games. Johnson, believing that Sestriere might give him the 0.02 seconds improvement he needed to break Colin Jackson's 110 metres hurdles world record, found himself running into a 2.4 metres per second head wind.

He defeated Jackson and Tony Jarrett, Britain's out-of-form hurdlers, and two of his predecessors as Olympic champion but recorded only 13.25sec. Jackson's world record is 12.91sec but here he managed only 13.49sec for third place. Roger Kingdom, twice Olympic champion in the Eighties, was second with 13.43sec; Jarrett was fifth in 13.86sec and Mark McKoy, the 1992 Olympic champion, eighth in 14.42sec.

CLIVE MASON/ALLSPORT

Edwards won competition but missed Ferrari

Admitting that he had come "to break the world record and take the Ferrari," Johnson ran one of his slowest times of the year. Johnson now wore a look of regret that he had rejected the White House gathering to honour medal winners. "I hope I will have another opportunity," he said.

Not as soon as his next opportunity to break Jackson's record, though. "I am going to try for it in London and Zurich," he said. That means at Crystal Palace on Sunday, in the post-Olympic celebration of Britain's medal winners, and in the Weltklasse Grand Prix next Wednesday.

Johnson is enjoying supremacy while he can. Injuries have prevented Jackson from being at his best these past two seasons but Johnson predicted that he will be challenging him closely again next summer. "After the injuries Colin has had, it is probably going to take him a year to get back," Johnson said.

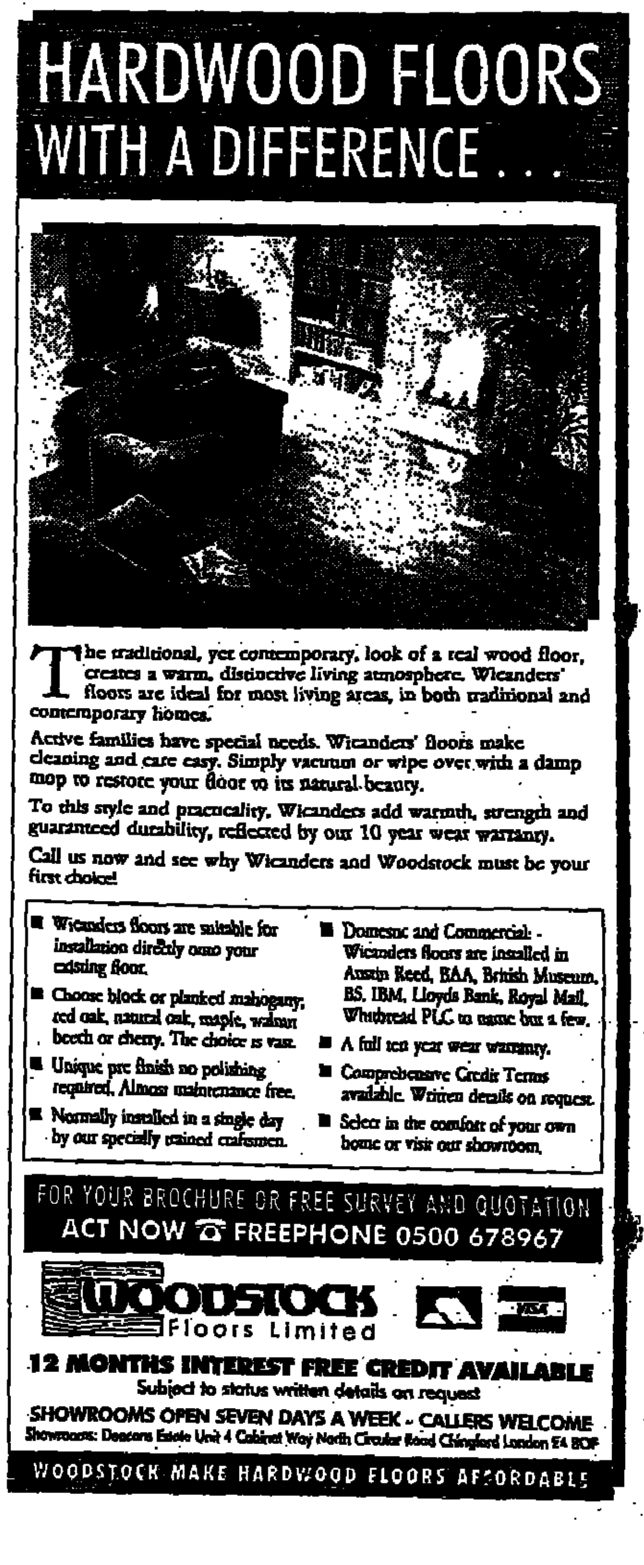
Only once in eight years of trying has Sestriere made the world record books. Sergey Bubka broke a pole vault world record here in 1994. Which does not mean that only one Ferrari has been won. Ivan Pedroso, of Cuba, the long jump world champion, was allowed to keep his Spider after the tangled web weaved by an Italian official last year.

Results 38

The official was suspended for life after an investigation concluded that he had obstructed the wind gauge during Pedroso's jump of 8.96 metres, one centimetre beyond the world record. Almost every other jump of the day was accompanied by wind readings over the legal limit. The triple jump yesterday was similarly affected.

Only five jumps carried legal readings, one being Edwards's winning jump. Edwards, runner-up to Kenny Harrison in the Olympics, trailed Brian Wellman, from Bermuda, until the final round. "After the Olympics I was feeling flat," Edwards said. Only when he was staring defeat in the face did his motivation return.

His 17.67 metres took him past Wellman by 14 centimetres. He was Britain's only winner. Linford Christie, in his first 100 metres since his Olympic disqualification, was second to Bruny Surin, of Canada.



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